

Czech premier begins Syrian visit

DAMASCUS (R) — Czechoslovakia's Prime Minister Lubomir Strougal flew here Sunday at the start of a three-day visit which the official Syrian News Agency SANA said would be aimed at strengthening relations in all areas. Mr. Strougal told reporters on arrival that his talks with Prime Minister Abdul Rauf Al Kasm and Syrian officials would cover international and bilateral issues, particularly economic and political. Czechoslovakia is Syria's second biggest arms supplier after the Soviet Union. Syrian officials said Strougal would be discussing with Mr. Kasm, and most probably also with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, "the situation in the Middle East and Israeli threats against Syria." The official newspaper Al Thawra said his visit was of "particular importance in the current circumstances in the Middle East."

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King sends good wishes to W. Germany

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday sent a cable of good wishes to West German President Carl Karsten on his country's National Day anniversary. The King expressed hope for strengthening ties of friendship and increasing co-operation between Jordan and the Federal Republic of Germany in all fields of interest of the two peoples. The King also wished the German president health and happiness and the people of Germany further progress and prosperity.

Sharif Zaid leaves on Italian visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lieutenant-General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker left for Italy Sunday at the head of a military delegation on a visit expected to last several days. Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid, who is making the visit at the invitation of the Italian chief of staff, will tour a number of Italian military installations. The delegation was seen off by Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Fathi Abu Taleb and senior officers.

India says media reports false

AMMAN (J.T.) — Media reports over deaths in the Indian army's recent crackdown on Sikh extremists have been distorted and the actual number of killed during last week's assault on the Sikh activists holed up inside the Golden Temple in Amritsar is 576 which includes 84 soldiers, a statement issued by the Indian embassy here said Sunday. The statement charged that Associated Press correspondents stationed in India were floating "many false stories," and referred in particular to two reports in which the AP quoted unidentified "military sources" as saying "as many as 1,000 Sikh militants and 200 troops" were killed and quoted an "unknown" doctor as saying 1,000 Sikhs were executed in cold blood. The statement said the AP reports "are totally without foundation" and aim at "pure mischief and malice." Now women or children were killed in the Amritsar battle, the statement added.

Gandhi appeals for communal peace, page 8

Iran protests Sri Lankan move

LONDON (AP) — Iran has asked Sri Lanka to reconsider its decision to allow Israel to open an interests office in Colombo. Tehran Radio reported Saturday night. The request followed a disclosure earlier this week by Sri Lanka that Mossad, the Israeli secret service, is to train Sri Lankan forces to combat Tamil guerrillas in the Indian Ocean island. Tehran Radio said that Iran's foreign minister, Ali Akbar Velayati, wrote to his Sri Lankan counterpart, Abdul Cader Shahul Hameed, that Sri Lanka's decision had caused "astonishment and displeasure." Mr. Velayati said his government hoped and expected that Sri Lanka would reconsider the decision.

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'Lebanon will have to rely on own forces' Karami rules out seeking Syrian presence in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami has ruled out inviting a Syrian deterrent force back to Beirut to enforce a fragile ceasefire between Lebanon's warring militias.

In an interview published in the English-language magazine Monday Morning Sunday amid preparations for a visit by Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam, Mr. Karami said Lebanon would have to rely on its own army and gendarmerie to restore order.

Asked what the chances were of the government calling in the Syrians, he said: "There is no possibility of such a development. I rule it out and see nothing to justify it."

Syrian troops were stationed in Beirut from the end of the 1975-76 civil war to the Israeli invasion of 1982, when they were evacuated with thousands of Palestinian fighters.

The idea of bringing them back has arisen on and off since a multi-national Western force withdrew from the Lebanese capital earlier this year, leaving the Lebanese to keep the peace themselves for the first time in eight years.

Mr. Karami said his "national unity" government hoped to turn the fragmented Lebanese army into an effective force capable of

assisting the gendarmerie in security duties and of taking the place of Israeli troops in the occupied south.

The future of the army is expected to be at the centre of Mr. Khaddam's talks with Mr. Karami and with President Amin Gemayel.

Cabinet sources said the Khaddam visit, already delayed several times, could take place Sunday or Monday. Because the army issue is so sensitive, Mr. Karami and Mr. Gemayel have been handling it through personal contacts with ministers and have not dared call a cabinet meeting for over two weeks.

In the meantime, fighting has continued along the "green line" dividing the capital, culminating last Monday in an outbreak of random shelling which killed at least 105 people.

Syrian policy is to encourage the Karami cabinet to reintegrate Muslim and Christian units of the army as part of an overall settlement of the Lebanese crisis.

Most of the ministers agree in principle on a united army, but differ over who should command it and over exactly what role it should have in internal conflicts.

The mostly Christian right-wing "Lebanese Forces" militia, however, has proposed "security decentralisation," whereby each main sect would have its own sectarian army in its own canton.

The Syrian media this week bitterly attacked Fadi Frem, the "Lebanese Forces" pro-Israeli commander, saying that if he could not accept reconciliation in Lebanon he had better leave.

The rightist militia is not directly represented in the new government and his pledge to oppose Mr. Karami's proposals to give Muslims a greater say in Lebanon's traditionally Christian-dominated system.

As part of preparations for Mr. Khaddam's visit, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt, commander of one of the two main militias in mainly Muslim west Beirut, visited Damascus Saturday.

Saudi mediator Rafiq Hariri, a Lebanon-born businessman active in previous rounds of Lebanese reconciliation talks, was also in the Syrian capital, state-run Beirut Radio said.

On his return from Damascus, Mr. Junblatt told his supporters he and his allies could not accept half-solutions. "We demand the solution which gives the people its legitimate rights, or else a return to arms," he said.

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Jordan ready to send troops if Iraq needs them, King declares

LONDON (Agencies) — Jordan would send troops to help Iraq in its war with Iran if the Iraqi leadership felt they were needed. His Majesty King Hussein said Sunday.

He also said Jordan was seeking defensive weapons in the international market and would buy them from anybody after the cancellation by the United States of Jordan's plans to purchase Stinger anti-aircraft missiles.

Appearing on a British television programme broadcast via satellite from Amman, he was asked if he would send Jordanian troops to the Gulf if requested.

The King said: "This has happened in the past and will happen again if ever we reach that point. Fortunately the Iraqis have never needed Jordanian troops to help them of their soil. If there was a need we would send them. It is not up to me to determine when or how."

On Jordan's need for arms, the King said: "We are looking in Europe. We are looking in the Soviet Union, China and Britain. We are looking everywhere and we shall see what we can come up with."

Arab nations were ready to negotiate, but only on the implementation of principles, not the principles themselves, he said.

"The solution equation is very simple: Total withdrawal for total peace, peace in the proper sense and peace that this area has never really experienced, the Israelis and the Arabs alike," he said.

Iranian defectors expected to leave Egypt

LUXOR, Upper Egypt (R) — An Iranian navy transport plane, with eight Iranian defectors on board, was expected to leave Egypt Sunday night, according to informed sources quoted by Reuters.

The sources said there would be no official announcement of the aircraft's departure from Luxor airport, where it has been parked since Friday. They said the plane's destination would not be announced.

The eight Iranians, said to include military personnel, flew the twin-engine F-77 Fokker Friendship to Egypt on Friday after first trying to land in Arab states across the Gulf from Iran.

The sources said the Egypt, which has apparently refused to grant the Iranians political asylum, had been in touch with several unspecified countries to "facilitate the plane's departure." They declined any further details. See earlier story on page 2

Fateh official escapes from rebels

AMMAN (R) — A high ranking Fateh official has escaped from a jail in Damascus run by Fateh rebels who broke away from the mainstream group last year, the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) deputy commander said Sunday. Khalil Al Wazir, deputy commander of the PLO forces, told Reuters that Suleiman Abu Karsh, known as Abu Khaled, escaped from the jail three days ago. He managed to evade recapture by the Fateh rebels and by a Syrian army group specialised in Palestinian commando control, reached the Jordanian border within three hours and is now in Amman. Mr. Wazir (Abu Jihad), said Abu Karsh was helped to escape by a warden and three other prison officers who all came with him into Jordan.

Iraqi commander suggests pre-emptive strike against Iran

BAHRAIN (AP) — A high-ranking Iraqi military commander said Sunday his country would consider mounting a preventive assault on Iranian troops as Gulf Arab states called for broadening the U.N.-mediated Iran-Iraq ceasefire.

"A preventive attack on Iranian troop placements is not to be discounted," General Maher Abdul Rasheed said in a statement distributed by the Kuwait News Agency. "Iraq is fully prepared to crush and annihilate any Iranian onslaught, irrespective of its size."

The statements came a day after Iraq accused Iran of violating the six-day-old ceasefire, saying that Iranian gunners shelled the border town of Sayed Sadeq. Iran Sunday denied the charge.

It also came amid stepped up efforts by Gulf Arabs to promote an expanded ceasefire in the 45-month-old conflict that has claimed thousands of lives and disrupted oil shipping in the vital Strait of Hormuz.

Gen. Abdul Rasheed, who commands the Third Army in the southern Iraqi Basra sector, also told the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Anbaa that Iran has amassed an estimated 200,000 regulars for the much-publicised Basra offensive.

He dismissed as "exaggeration" an estimate by U.S. intelligence and Arab diplomatic sources that there are between 300,000 and 500,000 Iranian "regulars and volunteers" at Basra.

The Iraqis last February attempted a large-scale offensive into the Basra sector where Gen. Abdul Rasheed said, the Iraqis killed 15,000 and wounded 25,000. "For every five Iranian casualties there was one Iraqi," he said, contending that the "next Basra offensive might occur within days."

He said Iraq would retaliate with recently acquired Soviet-made surface-to-surface missiles of "high destructive strength."

The general said that Iran was "not sincere" when it accepted the U.N.-brokered moratorium on attacking Iraqi and Iranian border civilian areas.

"The Iraqis were merely trying to tickle the sentiments of international bodies and powers that have been using their good offices in a bid to end the war," he added.

The Iraqi accusation of a ceasefire violation came less than 24 hours after the Iranian Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani offered to extend the limited ceasefire to cover commercial shipping lanes along the Gulf waters.

The Manama-based Gulf News Agency noted discord and contradictions among Iranian leaders and military commanders.

Iran, it said, would not heed U.N. calls for peace until it reaches a point where its economy nears the brink of collapse.

"Iran's exports of oil have dropped from 1.5 million barrels a day last January to about 500,000 barrels a day during the past two weeks," the agency said, while Iraq's exports in recent months stood at 650,000 barrels a day, down from three million barrels a day before the outbreak of war in 1980.

Kuwait hopeful

In Kuwait, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Abdul Aziz Husain said in a statement that his government was "hopeful that the (ceasefire) accord will be a prelude to a total abstention by both Iraq and Iran from any attacks on Kuwait and Saudi oil tankers."

Tehran said determined to seek to topple Iraqi government. Heat, dust, flies and boredom add to trials of Gulf war front, page 2

Fateh rebels split in Bekaa

SHTOURA, Lebanon (R) — Palestinian fighters loyal to dissident officer Abu Musa have taken control of all the Bekaa Valley bases and offices previously held by Abu Saleh, joint leader of the revolt against Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat last year, commando sources said Saturday.

The transfer took place this week after serious political differences emerged between the two men, both of them former members of Mr. Arafat's Fateh group, they said.

The followers of Abu Saleh withdrew without resisting and officers loyal to him were staying at home to await the outcome of peace talks between the two groups, the sources added.

Reporters who toured the area in eastern Lebanon Saturday found that Abu Saleh's men had evacuated their positions in the crossroads town of Shtoura and in a string of villages along and north of the main Beirut-Damascus highway.

The exact cause of the split was not immediately clear, but it is known to have been brewing for several weeks.

Both groups have been in a state of alert this week and there have been at least two violent incidents.

Unknown men opened fire Saturday night on the car of Abu Khaled Al Imleh, Abu Musa's second-in-command, in the village of Deir Zonoun, nine kilometres southeast of Shtoura, slightly wounding his driver, the sources said.

At about the same time commandos ambushed a vehicle containing Mahmoud Barghouti, a follower of Abu Saleh, and wounded two of his aides, they added.

Officials close to Abu Saleh's Reuters they thought a political solution to the split was unlikely and the conflict could well lead to a full-scale military confrontation.

Sources in the pro-Abu Musa group ruled out military methods, however, saying the two wings of the dissident movement were holding talks in the Bekaa and in Damascus in the hope of reaching a settlement.

The revolt against Mr. Arafat broke out in the Bekaa in May last year and later led to his expulsion from the northern part of Tripoli by the Syrian-backed dissidents.

Abu Musa and Abu Saleh are used Mr. Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, of monopolising power in the movement and of abandoning the armed struggle against Israel.

Police Abdul Hamid Sekhiri was sentenced to five years in jail and former Tunis police chief Ezzeddine Driss, who is in poor health, was acquitted.

The three men were accused of responsibility for the breakdown of law and order in the riots, which were sparked by the overnight doubling of the price of bread and which left 89 people dead, according to official figures.

Mr. Guiga, 60, who was dismissed after the riots and is working for a Saudi businessman in London, refused to face trial saying Prime Minister Mohammed Mzali was trying to cast him as a scapegoat.

Since the riots, Mr. Mzali has adopted a tough law and order policy, a position criticised by opposition parties and human rights groups.

Diplomats said the sentences could usher in a new period of internal détente. "It looks as if the authorities are keen to turn the page on the riots and look to the future," one diplomat said.

But the real test, diplomats said, would be President Habib Bou-

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Arens briefs cabinet on 'Bekaa situation'

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens briefed the cabinet on Sunday about "security in the Bekaa Valley" and a two-hour firefight there last week that sparked new tensions between Israel and Syria.

Military sources called Thursday's fighting an "inadvertent escalation" of tensions between Israel and Syria. But the sources said it marked the first time that Syrian troops were responsible for shots fired from across the Bekaa confrontation line since a ceasefire on June 11, 1982.

Syrian-backed Palestinian commandos were responsible for earlier attacks from Syrian-controlled areas, the sources said.

Israeli officials have said the lack of a peacekeeping force to separate the two armies and Syria's refusal to negotiate an "understanding" on a deployment of forces in Lebanon were to blame for periodic flareups in the Bekaa Valley during the past year.

The sources said Thursday's fighting was "a local incident" but that Syria was being "watched closely" to make sure such flareups did not spread.

A government statement said Mr. Arens discussed the attack and the situation in the area during a ministerial security committee meeting, details of which are traditionally kept secret.

Thursday's incident occurred after Israeli troops on a routine foot patrol came under fire near the Lebanese town of Kfar Kouk, six kilometres west of the Syrian border.

In keeping with the army's policy, the sources declined to say how many Israeli troops were involved in the incident, but they said no Israelis were injured.

"It was a case of inadvertent escalation. Perhaps it was a new Syrian commander who didn't realise it was a routine patrol, or

made a mistake about the border," one source said. "The shooting stopped after two hours, so apparently the Syrians got the message that we didn't want a full-scale offensive and received orders to sit tight," he said.

According to reports from Beirut, there are about 30,000 to 40,000 Syrian troops and 10,000 Israeli troops facing each other along the 60-kilometre front line that dog-legs across the Bekaa Valley and south towards the Golan Heights. Some units of the two armies are only a few hundred metres apart.

Mr. Arens, in an interview Saturday with armed forces radio, said the proximity of Israeli and Syrian forces in the Bekaa Valley "could result in a situation where complete control could be lost."

But Israel now believes the situation in the valley is "under control," the sources said.

Col. Bannani said Hawza itself had no immense tactical or strategic value but it was useful for his forces to occupy in order to end the "myth" of a capital of the Saharab Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) proclaimed by the Polisario.

A few years ago, the then left-wing municipality of Le Mans, France, won the motor-racing city with Hawza.

Col. Bannani said the general area around Hawza had some tactical importance because it controlled the nearby Aydar region.

The guerrillas, whose rear bases are around Tindouf, used the Aydar zone to penetrate and launch raids against Smara and against outposts in southern Morocco last July. Moroccan commanders said.

Two Moroccan fighter planes were shot down by SAM-6s when the Polisario used them for the first time at the battle of Gueliz-Zemmour, further south, in October 1981.

Col. Bannani said the Polisario, fighting for the independence of the former Spanish colony now administered by Morocco, lined up between 1,500 and 2,000 men backed by strong firepower, including 122-millimetre artillery guns and howitzers, he said.

But few tanks were seen because of the heavy losses that Polisario armour suffered further south, near the Mauritanian border, a few months ago, he said.

Col. Bannani said a radar-guided, ground-to-air "SAM-6" missile site was destroyed by Morocco on May 6, about 35 kilometres southwest of Hawza.

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Moroccan troops in full control of Polisario 'capital'

HAWZA, Western Sahara (R) — Moroccan troops pushing eastwards in their eight-year war against Polisario guerrillas are now in full control of Hawza, a deserted village once held by Polisario as its provisional capital.

For the first time, foreign correspondents were invited this week by Moroccan authorities to visit the latest stretch of the Western Sahara defence "wall" they built in three weeks from mid-April.

A three-metre high sand rampart protected by landmines and electronic surveillance equipment stretches along 320 kilometres from Zag in the east to the previous wall skirting Smara, the territory's only city.

A French journalist said he came here with the Polisario two years ago and recognised the site.

Communiques by the Algerian-backed Polisario were until recently dated "Hawza, liberated territories."

A former Spanish outpost on the main road from Layoune, on the Atlantic, to the Algerian oasis of Tindouf, Hawza is just a couple of blown-up houses near an old Spanish fort with sparse vegetation surviving in a nearby dried river bed.

Colonel Abdul Aziz Bannani, commander of Morocco's southern zone, said the Polisario fought five or six one-day battles in an attempt to stop construction of the latest wall by Morocco.

Colonel Ahmad Wali, in charge of the central sector of the wall, said Morocco lost 38 men killed and 100 others wounded during the three weeks. Polisario losses were estimated at about 250 dead

or wounded, he said.

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Iranian defectors still seeking country of refuge

LUXOR, Upper Egypt (R) — Eight Iranians who flew a navy transport plane to Egypt two days ago were still seeking a country of refuge Sunday after Cairo reportedly refused to give them asylum.

Egyptian security authorities said the Iranians had been trying to phone foreign embassies in Cairo but had so far failed "because of bad telephone lines."

The eight, said to include military personnel, flew a twin-engine F-27 Fokker Friendship in here on Friday after first trying to land in Arab states across the Gulf from Iran.

Security authorities said they were still inside a military base attached to Luxor Airport Sunday but had "so far failed to make any

telephone contact with some embassies in Cairo." The authorities declined to specify which embassies.

Egyptian Foreign Ministry sources have said Egypt would not grant asylum to the Iranians and that they were likely to go on to Europe or Latin America.

Diplomats here said it would be awkward for Egypt to accept the Iranians since it is involved in peace efforts to end the 44-month-old Iran-Iraq war.

The Iranians' blue-and-white plane was still parked in the airport's military sector Sunday, surrounded by security forces, eye-witnesses said.

The airport itself was declared a military zone and only passengers with confirmed seats were allowed inside after passing through various checkpoints. Airport employees were issued with special security passes while journalists were barred from approaching the airport.

One official in Luxor told Reuters the Iranians showed Egyptian authorities pictures of what they said were Iranians tortured for opposing the clergy-led Tehran government.

Israelis cut off Hebron water supply

AMMAN (Petra) — The Israeli occupation authorities have reportedly cut off water supplies from the occupied West Bank town of Hebron and its neighbouring villages from the beginning this summer.

This measure is bound to have very serious effects on the Arab region's agricultural production.

According to the Palestine News Agency (Wafa), the Israelis have destroyed many water storage tanks which the Arabs installed on the roofs of their homes as an extra precaution against water shortages.

The Israeli authorities are also reported to have prevented mayors of the West Bank towns to visit

the former mayor of Hebron Mustafa Al Natshe who the Israelis have sacked arbitrarily.

The Israelis have also imposed house arrest on Mr. Natshe since last week.

Many of the West Bank Mayors including those of Nablus, and Bireh are under house arrest.

17-year-old South Lebanese youth launched suicide attack, press says

BEIRUT (R) — A suicide car bomb attack on Israeli forces in South Lebanon Saturday was carried out by Bilal Fahes, a 17-year-old member of the "National Resistance Front — Jabal Amel Forces", a statement published Sunday said.

Fahes drove a Mercedes packed with 150 kilograms of TNT into a convoy of three Israeli armoured troop carriers south of Sidon Saturday afternoon, wounding at least three soldiers and damaging one of the vehicles.

An Israeli officer at the scene described the attack as a "Khomeinist suicide operation" (after Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini). He said the explosion was so violent that no recognisable traces of the car's driver remained.

The statement, signed by "National Resistance Front", published

in most Beirut newspapers, said Fahes was from the south but gave no biographical details. His surname suggested he was a Shi'ite Muslim.

A photograph of him appeared in the Beirut press Sunday.

The leftist daily As Safir said it received an anonymous telephone call Saturday night saying the suicide operation was carried out by the "Martyr Murshid Nahhas Group."

Murshid Nahhas, an official in the Shi'ite Movement Amal, was killed by Israeli intelligence or by Israeli local agents in the southern village of Bidyas Thursday, Amal sources said.

The statement and photograph of Fahes were the most concrete evidence yet that the "National Resistance Front" is more than an umbrella term for a wide range of

disparate guerrilla groups attacking the Israelis.

The "Jabal Amel Forces", a previously unknown unit, takes its name from the mainly Shi'ite inland plateau between the Israeli border and the Zahrani River.

An Nida, the Beirut daily of the Lebanese Communist Party, Sunday published photographs of two men killed in a gunbattle with the Israeli-backed "South Lebanon Army" in the southern Bekaa Valley on Friday.

It said the men, named as Mohammad Ali Younes and Mohammad Mahfouz Mahfouz, were also members of the "National Resistance Front".

Diplomats say the Communist Party has been one of the most active anti-Israeli forces. It is particularly strong in the southern Bekaa.

Israeli terrorist trial may be postponed

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — The trial opened Sunday of 22 Israelis accused of belonging to the largest Jewish network of Terror against Palestinians in Israel's history.

But at the end of the four-hour session, Judge Yaacov Bazak said the rest of the trial may be postponed until September — well after Israel's July 23 national elections.

Judge Bazak, who heads the three-judge panel hearing the case in Jerusalem district court, said "there seems to be agreement" for a delay of proceedings until after the court's summer recess. The judge said a decision on postponement would be made later

but gave no indication when that would be.

Defence attorneys Sunday requested a three-month delay on the grounds that there was an "atmosphere of incitement" against the defendants. Prosecuting Attorney Dorit Benish had argued against a long delay on those grounds, but she said later she would be willing to postpone proceedings if defence attorneys needed the time to review evidence.

The accused members of the Jewish underground, the largest ever uncovered in Israel, were arrested after a foiled attempt April 27 to blow up five Palestinian buses. They are accused

of plotting six attacks including the July 1983 shooting spree which killed three Palestinian students and wounded 33 in Hebron and the June 1980 car bombings which maimed two Palestinian West Bank mayors.

The defendants were asked by a judge if they had read the indictments against them and all 20 who were in court responded that they had. Two absent from the proceedings were on bail and not required to appear for Sunday's opening session. Three others pleaded guilty and was sentenced earlier.

Two of the defendants were seen praying before the court session began.



Iraqi woman shows her seven-year-old son lying in bed wounded in a Basra hospital after an Iranian shelling recently (AP wirephoto)

Tehran still determined to topple Iraqi government

By Robert H. Reid
Associated Press

KUWAIT — Despite Iran's willingness to halt attacks on civilians and spare Gulf shipping, many observers in the area doubt the Iranians have softened their goal of striking at Iraq and toppling the government.

The observers, who include businessmen, journalists and diplomats based in several Gulf countries, believe the Iranians are still planning a new offensive against Iraq, perhaps in a matter of weeks.

They note the Iranians are mobilising war veterans for further tours at the front, and that Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's propaganda machine still vows to destroy the Iraqi government.

"It's difficult to tell what's going on with the leadership," admitted one Arab source with close contacts in Tehran. "But as far as I can tell, there is no public sign that the mood has changed."

Tuesday's agreement between the Iraqis and Iranians to accept a proposal by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to stop shelling civilian targets raised

means they can ship their oil safely out of Kharg Island," he added.

Despite recent accommodating statements, the Iranian government seems to be signalling to its own public as well as foreign audiences not to overestimate the significance of any limited agreements.

Western sources who attended Mr. Rafsanjani's Friday speech, where he made the offer to spare shipping, said by telephone that banners urged foreign journalists against assuming Iran had abandoned its desire for "war until victory."

Saturday night, Iran announced it is sending an additional 2,500 soldiers to the front.

Although well-informed sources said it was impossible to measure Iranian public opinion regarding the war, some detected signs of limited discontent.

A Japanese businessman in the United Arab Emirates reported "scattered, anti-Khomeini graffiti on walls in north Tehran."

Some people are trying to hide their sons of draft age to keep them away from the army," said a Western source. "If the sons stay home and don't work, then the bureaucracy has trouble locating them for military service."

Although all sources agreed there were no signs of any major challenge to the regime over the war, some speculated the Iranians may be delaying their offensive in hopes of reducing unpopular casualties.

They noted that the recent call up of volunteers stipulated they should be "experienced" veterans, rather than young, ill-equipped religious fanatics driven by the hope of martyrdom.

"The Iranians don't want to be pushed into launching their offensive before they are ready," said a Western diplomat based in an Arab country other than Kuwait. "I think they want this one to be better-planned than previous ones that cost them heavily."

Some Western diplomats also believe Iran may have delayed the offensive after word that Iraq had received new Soviet weaponry, including ground-to-ground missiles.

Regardless of the problems, most of those interviewed were doubtful that recent agreements on sparing certain targets would lead to an early end to the fighting.

Heat, dust, flies and boredom add to trials of Gulf war front

By Michael Sheridan
Reuters

MANDALI, Iraq — It's hard to say what is worst about the Gulf war front — the danger, the heat, the dust, the flies, or the sheer tedium of 44 months of conflict.

Mandali, for example, was once a flourishing little town nestled among palm groves, its mudbrick houses the homes of people whose lives had changed little in centuries.

Lying on the border with Iran 120 kilometres northeast of Baghdad, Mandali today is a ghost town, terribly battered by shell and mortar fire. Its streets are eerily deserted except for soldiers living in sandbagged fortifications.

All but a handful of people have fled, some when an Iranian offensive threatened the town in 1982, others when the intensity of the barrages became too much. Many died.

Like Beirut, Mandali shows the scars of what man's ingenuity with high explosive can do to homes, schools, shops and hospitals.

Houses yawn open to the sky, roofs gone. Shop fronts tilt crazily into streets where artillery rounds have shattered walls and rubble blocks the pathways.

A reporter found a child's painting on the dusty floor of a half-demolished school.

Clearly this infant had painted from life. The crudely coloured picture showed lines of prisoners

being led away by soldiers while machines of war wheeled and fired in the background.

The soldiers behind the lines of sandbags grinned and waved to reporters, but their faces showed the etched lines of days under fire.

Universally depicted as unconquerable heroes by the Iraqi government press, they seemed perfectly ordinary men with a slightly dazed look.

They have little purpose in Mandali except to deny it to Iran. They live for weeks on end in the fortified positions, and bunkers in the town, eating rice, meat, stews and vegetables from field kitchens.

For the first time in ages they are free from shelling since both sides agreed to stop hitting civilian targets nearly a week ago. But the reflexes sharpened by action remain. Soldiers dash out from their shelters in ones and twos, while jeeps daubed with mud for camouflage screech from post to post.

Few believe the ceasefire will hold and most act as if they expect incoming rounds any second.

A few local people have ventured back, they say for the first time in months, but there is nothing in Mandali worth staying for.

There is main street taxi rank without taxis, shops with neither keepers nor customers, hospitals without patients and mosques devoid of worshippers.

"Mandali — khalas (finished)" grinned an old man back to look at his battered home.

While Iran has been blamed for hitting civilian areas, it was clear that some military targets — such as buildings housing anti-aircraft nests — had also been pounded.

In the town of Khaman, north of Mandali, officials took reporters to houses which they said had been hit after the agreement to stop attacks on civilian centres came into effect at midnight GMT on June 11.

But some local people who talked to reporters despite the presence of security men said there had been no shelling after the deadline and local military commanders confirmed this.

Briefing reporters at a command post from which the sound of artillery, apparently fired by the Iraqis, could be heard, a major said "no shells have hit the civilian areas since the midnight GMT deadline."

International inspection has shown that both sides in the war have hit civilian areas in the past, with each side blaming the other for fresh attacks.

But the ordinary folk of Mandali and Khaman seemed immune to the propaganda war being waged on their behalf.

They gazed impassively at the small invading army of the press and electronic media recording the damage to their homes, their tolerance towards the television cameras rivalled their stoicism in the face of Iranian artillery salvos.

Scholars discuss aid for needy Muslims

KUWAIT (R) — Over 150 Muslim scientists and scholars from 38 nations opened a two-day conference here Sunday to discuss ways to help needy Muslims and stop them from converting to Christianity, a spokesman for the organisers said.

The Arabic daily Al Watan quoted

founder Abdul Rahman Al-Sumait, a founder member of the International Islamic Charity Establishment which is holding the conference, as saying Muslims throughout the world were "succumbing to missionary pressure and zeal."

Missionaries spent \$1 billion on

advertisements alone, and large sums were given to new converts, it quoted him as saying.

"About three million Indonesians, 250,000 Bangladeshis and a large number of African Muslims had become Christians," he said, adding that efforts should be made to reverse this trend.

U.N. chief sees some hope in Mideast

By Anthony Goodman
Reuters

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — After visiting five Middle East countries in nine days, United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar sees some hope for a new Arab-Israeli peace initiative under U.N. auspices.

But the form it might take and when it might be launched still remain unclear.

"I found some elements that, if they are genuine, are encouraging," he said at the end of his trip. "All the leaders I met are interested in a peaceful solution of the problem."

These included Presidents Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, Hafez Al Assad of Syria, Amin Gemayel of Lebanon, His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

The difficulty is that each side rejects the other's approach.

In Cairo, Damascus, Beirut and Amman, the Peruvian diplomat making his first Mideast tour since becoming secretary-general in January 1982, found strong bac-

king for a Middle East peace conference under U.N. auspices.

This is unacceptable to Israel, which says such a gathering would quickly turn into an anti-Israel jamboree, much like the U.N. General Assembly.

Israeli opposition leader Shimon Peres told Mr. Perez de Cuellar that Israeli objections to a U.N. Middle East conference would remain even if the Labour Party replaced Prime Minister

As explained by him and his aides during his trip, the council would meet in closed sessions, joined by all the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

This, it was said, would avoid squabbles over where to meet, who would take part and who would be chairman. The Security Council normally meets in New York and its presidency rotates among members.

The U.N. chief's aides say the Security Council is the one forum where Israeli and PLO delegations already sit around the same table.

The secretary-general stressed, however, that he did not push any particular formula during his talks and had come to each of the capitals mainly to listen to the views of his hosts.

One of the paradoxes of the trip was the sharp contrast between Israel's deep distrust for the world organisation as an institution, and its high personal regard for the secretary-general as an individual.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Shamir's Likud government in the July 23 elections.

Israel seeks direct negotiations with each of its adversaries, like those that produced its peace treaty with Egypt.

But direct talks are anathema to the Arab states, which suspended Egypt from the Arab League for breaking ranks.

As a third alternative, Mr. Perez de Cuellar has suggested using the U.N. Security Council in a novel way to get talks started.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
MAIN CHANNEL
15:00 Koran
15:20 Children Programme
15:45 Religious Programme
16:00 Children Programme
16:30 Cookery Programme
16:40 Religious Programme
17:30 Ramadan Puzzle
17:40 Arabic Series
18:25 Islamic Programme
19:00 Arabic Series
19:30 News in Arabic
20:40 Arabic Series
21:20 Local Programme
22:30 Studio "1984"
23:00 News in Arabic
23:10 Studio "84 Cont.

FOREIGN CHANNEL
18:00 French Programme
18:30 Le Animaux de Monde
19:30 News in French
21:30 The Blue and the Grey
21:30 Science International
21:30 Comedy: Dr. At Large
22:00 News in English
22:15 Lord Oliver

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM
& partly on 95.60 KHz, SW

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsweek
08:00 Morning Show
08:00 News Summary
08:05 Morning Show
11:00 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instruments
14:20 Over a Cup of Tea
15:00 News Summary
15:05 News Summary
15:10 Old Favourites
17:00 Classical Show Case
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 Evening Show
18:05 Sports Round-up
18:30 Arabian Nights
19:00 Newsweek
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 News Summary
21:30 News Summary
24:00 News Headlines

BBC WORLD SERVICE
639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsweek 06:30 An Ice-Cream War 06:45 Letter from London 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 07:30 Sing A Song of London 07:45 Letter from Everywhere 08:00 Newsweek 08:30 Baker's Half Dozen 09:00 World News 09:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 09:30 Sarah and Company 10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections 10:15 Village 10:30 Anything Goes 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 Waveguide 11:25 Good Books 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Music Now 12:15 Kenneth Matthews: Compilations 12:30 Counterpoint 12:00 World News 12:09 News About Britain 12:15 Cricket Commentary 12:30 Omnibus 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Brain of Britain 14:30 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 15:30 Swinging Sixties 15:45 In Praise of God 16:30 Cricket Commentary 16:45 Music For a While 17:00 Radio Newsweek 17:15 Outlook 18:00 World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15 The Footyke Sags 18:30 Kenneth Matthews: Compilations 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:09 Book Choice 19:15 My Music 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsweek 20:30 My Hero Have Always Been Cowboys 21:00 Outlook 21:30 Stock Market Report 21:45 Look Ahead 21:45 Poshies' Choice 22:00 World News 22:09 Newsweek 22:30 Sports International 22:30 Network UK 23:15 An Ice-Cream War 23:30 Counterpoint 24:00 World News 06:00 The World Today 06:25 Book Choice 06:30 Financial News 06:40 Reflections 06:45 Sports Round-up 06:50 World News 07:00 Commentary 07:15 The Footyke Sags 07:30 Brain of Britain 1984

VOICE OF AMERICA
MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 12510 KHz
06:00 VOA Morning News on the hour: news summaries, daily business report, science and medicine, sports reports; VOA editorial and world and U.S. opinion roundups; documentary analysis; viewpoints; features 17:00 News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Music USA standards 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Special English News and Features 20:00 News 20:10 Focus

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Exhibition of paintings by various Jordanian artists at Alla Art Gallery.

VIDEO

* "Les Jumeaux Filles" 2nd episode at the French Cultural Centre at 4:00 p.m.

FILMS

* "Le Bonheur" at the French Cultural Centre at 7:54 p.m.

* "The National Football League — Highlights of Super Bowl 17 — Hog Day Afternoon" at the American Centre at 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6610267
American Centre - 44371
American Centre Library - 41520
British Council - 36147-8
French Cultural Centre - 37009
Goethe Institute - 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre - 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre - 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre - 39777
Haya Arts Centre - 665195
Hussein Youth City - 667181
Y.W.M.A. - 664251
Amman Municipal Library - 36111
University of Jordan Library - 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century

SERVICE CLUBS

Liara Amman Club: Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Lions Club: Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphian Rotary Club: Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club: Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club: Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Amman, Tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabal Luweibdeh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox): Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer): Jabal Amman, 41559.
Armenian Catholic Church: Ashrafieh, 171331.
Armenian Orthodox Church: Ashrafieh, 175261.
Catholic Church (Syrian Orthodox): Ashrafieh, 771751.
Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 663249.

PRAYER TIMES

06:27 (Sunrise) Fajr
06:29 (Sunrise) Shuruq
11:27 Dhuhur
15:16 'Asr
18:46 Maghrib
20:27 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alla Information Department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 33250, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

05:50 Cairo (MS)
09:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:30 Agaba (RJ)
09:45 Cairo (RJ)
09:45 Muscat, Bahrain (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
10:00 Dhahran (RJ)
11:30 Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
12:50 Muscat, Bahrain (GP)
14:40 Kuwait (RJ)
15:10 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
15:10 Balgrade, Athens (JU)
17:00 Athens (RJ)
17:30 New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:30 Cairo (RJ)
18:30 Baghdad (RJ)
18:40 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
20:50 Cairo (MS)
22:30 Baghdad (IA)
00:45 Cairo (RJ)
00:45 Baghdad (RJ)
01:00 London, Baghdad (BA)

DEPARTURES

05:45 Cairo (RJ)
06:50 Cairo (MS)
07:15 Agaba (RJ)
08:30 Athens (OA)
11:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:30 Athens (RJ)
11:30 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
12:00 London (RJ)
12:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:30 Istanbul, Bucharest (RJ)
12:30 Ankara, Istanbul (TK)
13:30 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GP)
14:30 Cairo (RJ)
15:40 Kuwait (KU)
16:25 Istanbul, Balgrade (JU)
16:30 Medina, Jeddah (SV)
19:30 Kuwait, Dubai (RJ)
19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
19:45 Dhahran (RJ)
20:15 Jeddah (RJ)
20:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
20:45 Cairo (RJ)
21:50 Cairo (MS)
23:30 Lisbon, Rio de Janeiro (RJ)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

— Najran Zababia
— Amado
— Laska Malpala
— Al-Layla
— Al-A

Jordan to import one sixth of oil from Iraq

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will import one sixth of its oil requirement for this year from Iraq, in accordance with an agreement signed by Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anazi during his visit to Baghdad in April.

Under the agreement, signed on April 23, Jordan will import 1,300 tonnes of crude oil daily from Iraq, and this is worth \$110 million a year.

Jordan normally imports nearly 8,500 tonnes of oil daily, all from Saudi Arabia, and the total annual bill amounts to \$650 million, according to a spokesman for the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism.

Among other provisions, the agreement states that Jordan will pay for the oil by means of Jordanian national exports to Iraq, and by offering to Iraq services through contractors, air transport facilities and in exchange for services and training rendered to Iraqi students in Jordan.

Also under the agreement, special accounts for organising payment in U.S. dollars for either side will be conducted through the central banks in both countries.

Representatives of both sides will meet at the end of the year to make a general assessment of the agreement before renewing it for another year.

On Saturday, a Royal Decree was issued approving the agreement.

Noor briefed on Jerash Festival arrangements

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor, president of the higher national committee for the Jerash Festival, Sunday inspected the festival site in Jerash.

The Queen was briefed on the preparations going on for the two-week festival to be held in August, and, in turn, gave directives to the supervising committee on technical matters related to the festival especially on the infrastructure, light and sound and other major facilities which it is hoped will make the festival a success.

The Queen also looked into the arrangements for Arab and foreign troupes taking part in the festival.

A spokesman for the committee said that agreement has been given in principle for 12 troupes to perform at the festival, in addition to Jordanian artists representing various cultural and artistic specialties.

At least one quarter of a million visitors are expected to visit the festival, the spokesman said.

The Queen discussed these matters with Dr. Adnan Badran, president of Yarmouk University in its capacity as chairman of the festival's executive committee. Dr. Mazen Al Armouti the festival's director, Dr. Othman Malhas director of the festival's exhibitions section, and Raja Ja'war, director of the festival's theatre and arts activities.



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Suleiman Arar Saturday chairs a meeting of the Higher Public Safety Committee to discuss water problems, street vendors and road safety (Petra photo)

Safety body discusses water problem

AMMAN (J.T.) — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Suleiman Arar Saturday evening chaired a meeting of the Higher Public Safety Committee to discuss drinking water problems, street vendors, and safety on the roads.

The committee stressed the need to safeguard sources of drinking water, to purify water by the use of chlorine and to conduct regular tests on water from springs.

Stress was laid on the standard of water used in Palestinian refugee camps, especially its storage and the disposal of wastewater there.

The committee recommended

that control should be intensified over the selling of foodstuffs, especially ice cream, and to keep a tight control on factories which process food and carbonated and soft drinks as well as on street vendors.

The committee also called on municipal and health authorities to intensify their work to eradicate flies and other common insects, to introduce proper measures for the disposal of rubbish and waste material, and to remove cattle and sheep beyond town boundaries.

Road safety

On safety on the roads, the committee stressed the need for

all motorists to use seatbelts and for pedestrians to comply with road and traffic regulations.

It also looked into measures designed to prevent fires occurring in public places and parks.

The committee comprises the ministers of health, municipal and rural affairs and the environment, occupied territories affairs, public works, and the mayor of Amman and representatives from the ministry of interior, public security, civil defence, information media,

Ajlouni announces plan to improve health services

MADABA (Petra) — Health Minister Kamel Ajlouni announced here Sunday that the Health Ministry has worked out a comprehensive plan to improve health services in the country.

He said that the ministry will build health centres in areas whose inhabitants number between 3,000 and 5,000 as part of the projected plan which will be referred to the prime ministry soon for approval.

The project will be financed by a loan which will be obtained from the World Bank, the minister said.

Dr. Ajlouni was speaking at a meeting with representatives of

various public sectors in the Madaba District Governorate during his inspection tour of the region's health centres.

The minister said that the plan is in line with the government's policy of promoting medical and health services in Jordan and finding efficacious solutions to health problems.

The Health Ministry will soon raise the standard of medical ser-

vices offered by the Madaba Hospital and neighbouring health centres, and will provide specialists in X-rays, eye treatment, and laboratory work, Dr. Ajlouni said.

The minister expressed his ministry's willingness to supply medical equipment to new centres provided that the local village councils offer a suitable building in which to house them.

It will also train young, local women to serve as nurses or midwives in their own regions.

Later, Dr. Ajlouni paid a visit to the health centre in the neighbouring Umm Al Basatin and was briefed on its needs and services.

Ministry launches drive on beggars

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Social Development Sunday decided to introduce a campaign to remove beggars, tramps and vagabonds from the country's streets.

A meeting held at the ministry under the chairmanship of Mr. Abdul Salam Kan'an, minister of social development, resulted in the formation of a national committee to combat begging and vagabondage with the aid of police and other government departments.

The committee will also conduct an awareness and guidance campaign and will make arrangements for tramps and beggars to be taken into care or rehabilitated, a ministry spokesman said.

He said that the ministry will act as a co-ordinator in matters concerning these people and will send

teams into the streets on a daily basis to pick up beggars and tramps in co-operation with the police.

Ministry specialists will study the case of each beggar or tramp separately before recommending the course of action to be taken, he said.

The meeting reviewed a working paper on the vagabonds, tramps and beggars in Jordan and said effective measures that shou-

uld be taken in order to rehabilitate them.

Representatives from the Ministries of Interior, Education, Information, Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and Health, as well as the Amman Municipality, Public Security Department and police departments in Amman, Irbid and Zarqa, the Youth Welfare Organisation and the Social Security Corporation attended the meeting.

Police arrest swindlers in attempted land fraud

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian national living abroad has been the victim of an attempted fraud involving five people who sold him land which they did not own.

The land was sold to the expatriate, whose name was withheld by the police, for JD 80,000 by the five swindlers, one of whom had posed as the owner of land by forging documents and title deeds as well as his own identity card which was made to carry the owner's name on it.

He also obtained power of attorney to sell the land from the notary public.

The swindler signed the papers at the land registration department and received the cost, a

report in Al Dustour Arabic daily newspaper said.

The whole operation came to light thanks to a witness who had been present as the transaction was conducted at the department.

According to the report, the witness happened to be an acquaintance of the genuine owner of the land and paid him a visit to express his dismay at being refused the land when he had earlier offered to buy it for the same price.

Police were immediately alerted and the swindler and his accomplices arrested and referred to the prosecutor-general for investigation, the report said.

Fertiliser company sells big consignment to India

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is to sell India 100,000 tonnes of fertiliser and the consignment is due to be delivered in three months time, according to Dr. Mahmoud Mard, Director-general of the Jordan Fertiliser Industry Company (JFIC).

His statement, which appeared in Sunday's local press, followed his return from a visit to India where he said he signed an agreement to sell the fertiliser that is produced at the company's factory in Aqaba.

The consignment will be fol-

lowed by a similar delivery later on this year in accordance with the agreement, he said.

Asked about the company's sales in the first five months of 1984, Dr. Mard said that these amounted to 385,000 tonnes which are worth \$74 million.

Last year JFIC sold 365,000 tonnes of diammonium fertiliser and the new agreements with India serves as an indicator that the company is intent on a new marketing drive this year, having overcome many of the problems that impeded work last year.

Social security law extended

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Social Security Corporation (SSC) will from the beginning of July include Jordanian companies and institutions which employ at least 10 employees within the SSC laws. An SSC spokesman said that at least 35,000 new workers will be covered by the measure. The total number of people included in the SSC law now stands at 240,000, the spokesman said.

NOTICE

Jordan - Syria- Saudi Arabia
Joint Tender No. TCC 7/84 and TCC 1/84
For microwave system and coaxial system

1. The last date for submission of offers for microwave systems remains the same as announced i.e. 24th July, 1984.
2. The Answers to questionnaire. From those who bought the tender documents and did not attend the meeting on 12th and 13th June, 1984 could collect the same from Secretary Tender Committee Telecommunication Corporation.
3. Please note that the bid-bond for Saudi Arabia is 5% (not 1%).
4. The last date for submission of tender for coaxial system is extended to 25th August, 1984.

Eng. Moh'd Shahid Ismail
Director General

Caritas lay charity addresses special problems of Jordan's poor and needy

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Italy-based Caritas is a lay people's Christian charitable society which was established about a century ago in Europe and later spread to Asia, Africa, America. It now has branches in 124 countries.

Through its various activities in Jordan, Caritas is seen by both the Muslim and Christian sections of society as a caring organisation which helps those in need regardless of creed, colour, status or race. Caritas sees this as a deep Christian commitment, following the example of Jesus Christ in doing what it can for the oppressed, the imprisoned, the deprived and the poor.

Through its approach, Caritas tries to implement its philosophy of love both for the poor and needy — trying to help and teach them so that in their turn they may help and teach others who too may become witnesses to the love of each other.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, the director of Caritas here, Rev. Musa Adeli, said that Caritas' work in Jordan is different from anywhere else in the world. "We have our own problems to handle," he added.

Palestinian refugees

Rev. Adeli explained that in Jordan, Caritas' main work is concentrated on helping Palestinian refugees who were evicted from their homeland and came to Jordan as a result of the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

In a country like the United States, Caritas tries to help the victims of drug abuse and addiction, Rev. Adeli said, but here "we have different kinds of problems, he added.

Despite the fact that Caritas is a foreign international society, almost all its staff here are Jordanians. Moreover, Rev. Adeli said, "we are working to make it a completely Jordanian society."

There are about 15 people working in Caritas here comprising monthly-paid doctors and staff. There are Caritas clinics in Ashrafieh and a pharmacy where 80 per cent of the medicines are given to patients free. Caritas also has centres in Hashimi and Zarqa.

When a catastrophe hits a country somewhere in the world, Rev. Adeli said, Caritas contributes from all its 124 branches mainly in the form of medicine, blankets, food and other basic needs depending on the kind of crisis. The society provides most of its services for a nominal fee.

Caritas funds come from private donations, government subsidies and aid programmes.

Rev. Adeli told the Jordan Times that, due to the drought in Jordan this year, Caritas here has called on its branches abroad for help. Some have sent funds to support villages in the south of the Kingdom in co-operation with the Ministry of Social Development.

A Caritas doctor is responsible for the yearly examination of approximately 4,000 schoolchildren in the schools of the poorer areas. It is hardly necessary to stress the importance Caritas puts on this



A small girl is given a dental examination by one of the Caritas specialists (J.T. file photo)

work as many a child's illness is detected in its early stages and can be treated efficiently.

As for the handicapped, the society does not run a centre itself but supports existing centres. The handicapped are also aided academically encouraged to pursue their studies in order to reach as high a standard as possible.

The Caritas clinics possess most basic equipment for tests and treatments, with each having the capacity to receive an average of 50 cases a day. The services include dental clinics, vaccinations and medicines.

In four Caritas centres, women are taught the basic art of sewing, embroidery and macramé. At the end of their training, they receive an official diploma from the Ministry of Social Development, which then enables them to obtain employment. Two of these centres are in Amman while there are two in Ajloun and Zarqa.

There is a centre in Jabal Amman where women are taught the art of artificial flower making

and arrangement.

One of the most important projects Caritas has is in the Mahatta prison for women.

Caritas staff regularly visit the women imprisoned there, some of whom are serving very long sentences and many of whom have small children with them.

The purpose of these visits "is first and foremost pastoral", he said, adding that such visits make a profound impression on these women.

The practical help is in the form of a Vocational Training School within the prison where women are taught to sew, knit, embroider and make decorative baskets.

These items are then sold by members of the Caritas staff, thus enabling the women prisoners to have some pocket money for themselves and for the needs of their children.

Caritas aims to extend its vocational training programme to the prisons at Zarqa, Suweilah and Jwaideh, which is just part of Caritas' expansion programme.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Court gives sentences in fraud case

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced Sami Khuzuz to six months in jail and to pay a JD 20 fine for fraud. The court also fined six merchants between JD 40 and JD 200 for violating Ministry of Supply regulations. The military governor has endorsed the sentences.

Phosphate contract signed with Pakistan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Phosphate Mines Company has signed two contracts for this year to supply two Pakistani companies with 272,000 tonnes of Jordanian phosphates. Jordan is the sole supplier of phosphate rock to Pakistan.

Bashir commissions statistical survey

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Mohammad Bashir has asked directors of agriculture in governorates to provide the ministry with a detailed breakdown of all the crops already planted or those usually planted in the areas under the auspices of the department together with the type of crops and the average yield per unit of land. The move aims to increase the store of statistics to be taken into consideration when setting the monthly plans for exports and imports, a ministry spokesman said.

Tawjihi entrants up by 4% in Irbid

IRBID (Petra) — A total of 13,988 female and male students from the Irbid Governorate are taking part in the General Secondary Certificate (Tawjihi) exams which started Saturday in Jordan. The students comprise 9,192 in the literature stream, 3,767 in the science stream, 399 in the commerce stream, 491 in the industry stream, 65 in the nursing profession stream and 74 in the postal services stream. Department of Education Director in Irbid Mohammad Al Halaishi said that the department has 174 exam centres in the governorate. The number of students for the Tawjihi exams this year is four per cent more than in the past year, he said.

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Senior Editor: HANAFI KHOURI
Editorial and advertising offices: Jordan Press Foundation, University Road, P.O. Box 5710, Amman, Jordan.
Telephone: 66326, 66265 Telex: 21977 ALRAI JO
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Two standards for terror?

THE TRIAL of 25 Israelis on charges of belonging to "terrorist organisations" and undertaking activities against Palestinian targets in the occupied West Bank is causing rather less public debate than one would have expected. After all, we have 25 Israelis, or American Jews who have recently moved to Israel, who spearhead the Israeli drive to establish settlements throughout the occupied West Bank, with the full blessing and support of the Israeli government. It should be quite a sensation to learn that the vanguard of one's national political soul includes 25 individuals who have stolen armaments from the Israeli army, and used information provided by government officers, with the intention of carrying out a widespread campaign of attacks against Palestinian individuals and targets, such as the Dome of the Rock Mosque.

When the trials of the accused start, the first "terrorists" are sentenced to 18 months in prison. Others are now in the process of plea-bargaining with prosecution lawyers, to plead guilty to lesser charges and therefore receive reduced sentences.

One wonders, in these circumstances, what would happen if the accused were 25 Palestinians who were charged with belonging to "terrorist" organisations? In practice, Palestinians in such circumstances are convicted and sent to jail for terms that range from several decades to life.

So what does one infer from the different criteria applied by Israeli courts to Jewish and Palestinian "terrorists"? Does one have reasonable ground to suggest — hold on to your seats here, friends, or you shall be knocked to the ground by the howling of Walter Mondale and the Society to Clean Up Humanity and Secure the Votes of Miami — that Israel applies one standard of morality for Jews and another for Arabs? Is this — dare one say it? — a form of racism?

The spectacle of Israeli settlers spreading out in the occupied territories and carrying out bombing campaigns against Arab targets does not mesh well with the image that Israel tries to project of itself as the benchmark of global morality, a nation struggling to provide a safe haven for its own people because they have been denied safety and security in the rest of the world. The concept of Jewish terror is not new, however. It was practiced with great success in the early decades of this century, resulting in Israeli statehood. We are not so surprised to see Zionist terror rise again. But should we be surprised to see it being treated so lightly by the Israeli courts?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Iran's real intentions

THE IRANIS have breached an agreement with Iraq on the shelling of civilian targets across the border, and this violation comes in the wake of an Iranian request for an end to attacks on the oil tankers in the Gulf. This clearly exposes the real intentions of the Iranian regime which do not favour peace and an end to the conflict with Iraq. This calls on the Gulf states to increase their support and help to Iraq because the Iranian enemy is not committed to any agreements and it will be dangerous to rely on Tehran's promises. The pressure of the war on Iran's economy and the Iranian internal situation are forcing the regime in Tehran to act foolishly and in an illogical and contradictory manner.

The regime has been asking the U.N. to arrange a halt to shelling on oil tankers while at the same time we witness continuous massing of troops on the Iraqi border. The Iranians seem uninterested in maintaining an agreement on not shelling civilian targets but rather interested in exporting oil to earn money to finance the war with Iraq. The Iranian rulers are losing their chance to win the war. Their actions now are bound to make them lose their stray economy and the remaining support of the Iranian people.

Al Dustour: Throwing away our support

QUITE A number of world nations which had been supporting Arab just causes and rights in international organisations and conferences are now turning away from us. This is quite natural because it is a normal reaction of nations whose stands in support of the Arabs have not been appreciated in a meaningful way and which now turn to other friends and new allies. These states, including Guinea and Sri Lanka which used to be staunch supporters of the Arabs, are now adopting attitudes that show a clear tendency towards Israel. This is quite understandable because these states had expected a strengthening of economic and trade ties with the Arabs in return for their support or in the case of poor nations some financial assistance.

This was what the Arab states could have done to maintain the support of these nations for the Arab causes in the international forums. What is happening now is that Guinea, Sri Lanka and probably Portugal, Spain and Greece are turning their attention away from the Arabs. These countries see in the Arabs' cool attitude towards them and the endless differences among Arab countries themselves an excuse to move away from us and take a neutral attitude as to our conflict with the Zionists, if not supporting the enemy side.

Sawt Al Shaab: Trickery or contrition

THERE IS a clear contradiction in Tehran's actions these days which has witnessed an escalation of war activity in the Gulf. Its request to the U.N. to try to expand an agreement with Iraq on refraining from shelling civilian targets to include shipping in the Gulf could be very tricky indeed. Tehran is known to be massing tens of thousands of troops along its border with Iraq in clear preparation for a new offensive across the border. It is also maintaining its warnings to Arab states in the region not to help Iraq in the war, and has turned down previous U.N. resolutions calling for an end to the conflict and while aborting U.N. missions attempting to mediate between Iraq and Iran to end the war.

We wonder whether Iran has now succumbed to the pressure from the U.N., other international organisations or the devastating blows to its economy because it has been unable to export its oil from Kharg Island due to Iraq's continued blockade. Or is this just a trick by which Iran hopes to draw a wedge between Iraq and its Arab neighbours and a way of deceiving other nations as to the real intentions of the regime in Tehran? One thing is sure, that Iran has begun to feel the pinch and is trying different means to find a way out of its present dilemma.

Benvenisti's report provides 'scientific cover to Israel's expansionism'

Palestinian self-determination remains key issue

By Muhammad Hallaj

THE FATE of the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip is almost universally perceived as the key to the Arab-Israeli conflict. The reason why these two small territories are so crucial is that they are the sole remnants of Palestine and are increasingly seen by the international community as the most reasonable and practical site for a Palestinian homeland, being the only place where the Palestinian people can enjoy self-determination without causing hardships and displacements for others in the region. However, the point is frequently made that Israel's policy of de facto annexation of the West Bank and Gaza is pre-empting the possibility of Palestinian self-determination. Now a new school of thought is emerging which holds that the annexation process has become irreversible, and that as a consequence, Palestinian-Israeli co-existence can take the form only of a Palestinian ethnic minority living in an expanded Jewish state.

Those who advocate this view conclude that the nature of the Arab-Israeli confrontation has undergone a drastic change. It is no longer a struggle for sovereignty over land; that struggle has already been decided in Israel's favour by its de facto incorporation of the West Bank and Gaza into its own territory. They contend that from now on Israel's major concern should be to contain the possible damage to Israel's Jewish society resulting from the incorporation of a large "non-Jewish" minority, and that the Palestinians' overriding concern should be to ensure their civil and human rights as an ethnic minority in

"Eretz Israel". This view has recently been given the appearance of scientific validity by a controversial report, *The West Bank Data Project*, produced by an Israeli research group headed by the former deputy mayor of Jerusalem, Meron Benvenisti, and published by the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research (Washington). The report accepts the idea that the facts created on the ground by Israel's de facto annexation of the West Bank and Gaza have changed the Palestinian question from a national one of a people seeking self-determination to an internal (i.e. domestic) Israeli problem of an ethnic minority which should gear itself to struggle for civil rights.

The report presents a body of facts and statistics about the "Judaisation" of the occupied Palestinian territories not found in any other single publication, and makes it possible to see "at a glance" the scope and extent of Israeli penetration and domination of the West Bank and Gaza. This is its only virtue; unfortunately, the facts are used to advance erroneous and potentially dangerous conclusions. Some of the facts themselves may be questioned, as, for instance, putting the number of Jewish settlers at 27,500 for the West Bank, and 900 for the Gaza Strip, a vast underestimate since these figures exclude the heavily settled occupied sector of Jerusalem (official U.S. sources put the number of Jewish settlers at 125,000). It also claims that the economic measures which created the situation described and led to the alleged irreversibility of the

occupation were almost accidental rather than a part of an Israeli "grand design". All major economic decisions, the author claims, without any documentation to substantiate it, were haphazard decisions "taken on the spur of the moment" by low-level bureaucrats. One is reminded of the old myth about the British empire coming about in "a fit of absent-mindedness".

Flaws in Benvenisti's report

The more serious problems of Benvenisti's report, however, are the implications he draws from Israel's devouring the West Bank and Gaza. The most objectionable and unsupported aspect of his main conclusion that the annexation has become irreversible and that the Palestinian issue has been "internalised", is that it is obviously based on the premise that the interests of a Jewish minority overrule the rights of the Palestinian majority. The Zionist movement has always used this premise, sometimes implicitly but often explicitly articulated. In the 1920s and 1930s, when the Jewish population of Palestine, like the Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Gaza today, was still a minority, the Zionist movement opposed Palestinian demands for independence on the grounds that they conflicted with the prospect of the "Jewish national home". There is a racist dimension to this premise, and it is discouraging that Meron Benvenisti succumbs to it. There is no other way to explain why the Palestinian majority in the West Bank and Gaza loses its

right to govern itself due to the presence of a Jewish minority in its midst. To say that this Jewish minority constitutes a pressure group which influences decision-making in the Israeli political system does not invalidate the point that Mr. Benvenisti's conclusions conform to the assertion that Jewish minority interests supersede Arab majority rights.

This fact alone is sufficient to call into serious question the conclusion that it is too late for Palestinian national rights. There are other problems, however, with Mr. Benvenisti's analysis: the existence of other options which he fails to raise and consider. For example, he does not consider the possibility of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza in which Jews live as a minority. Why is it acceptable that Arabs live as a minority in a Jewish state but unthinkable that a Jewish minority lives in an Arab state, even within the context of an Arab-Israeli peace? Again, it is difficult to understand this "oversight" without concluding that Mr. Benvenisti was not simply replying the facts, but taking a political position based on implicit ideological assumptions. Another possibility ignored is the removal of the settlements, which were illegally implanted in the first place. To ignore this option is to subscribe to the view that it is acceptable to displace hundreds of thousands of Palestinians who have lived in Palestine for centuries, but unthinkable to displace a few thousand Jews who have forcefully settled in the area a few years or even a few months

ago, and who still commute to Israel for work, schooling, health care and other needs. It is unconvincing to dismiss this option by simply pointing out that the Jewish settlers have become a pressure group in the Israeli political system, because pressure groups against Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories are a majority in Israeli society and in fact are in power in Israel. It is not the settlers who make it impractical for Israel to withdraw; on the contrary, it is Israeli-Zionist expansionism which created the settlement phenomenon. Mr. Benvenisti did not need a team of researchers and a lot of statistics and maps to show that Israel has already gone a long way toward the usurpation of the rest of Palestine, but he certainly needed a much more valid argument than the one presented to show why such usurpation should become permanent.

The report also includes an irony. Nowhere does Mr. Benvenisti bring out the hardships of daily life for the Palestinian inhabitants of the occupied territories caused by the many ways Israel is reducing them to an ethnic minority. On the contrary, the report's main thrust is to bring out the problems Israeli society is facing as a result of the occupation and annexation of Arab territory. The victimiser miraculously becomes the victim of the process!

Benvenisti's political motives

It is difficult to conclude without risking a speculation of Mr. Benvenisti's political objectives and motives. What he has done is to give the appearance of "scientific" cover to Israel's policy of territorial aggrandisement. Gobbling up the West Bank and Gaza, it can now be said, is no longer an expansionist Israeli objective, but a rational consequence of demographic and economic realities: the Palestinian quest for self-determination is thus not only difficult to achieve but irrational as well. Then why did Mr. Benvenisti, a "Labour Zionist", do it? Is it to give the Labour Party, if it is returned to power in the coming elections, a pretext to wriggle out of its previous commitment to seek peace with the Arabs on the basis of "territorial compromise"?

One final point. If what Mr. Benvenisti is saying — that the idea of Palestinian self-determination even in a small part of Palestine has become unattainable — is true, then something else is also true: that a political settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict has become unattainable. Before his conclusions become guidelines for policy-making, in Israel and elsewhere, it is important to ponder the possibility that not only Palestinian self-determination but also the peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict will fall victim to Israel's policies. Because one of their consequences, which Mr. Benvenisti fails to consider, is that the conflict will no longer be over the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, but will revert to its original form, a struggle for Palestine. — Middle East International.

Dr. Hallaj is director of the Palestine Research and Educational Center, Washington DC.

Kohl to launch campaign to improve ties with the East

By Ralph Boulton

Reuter

BONN — Chancellor Helmut Kohl flies to Hungary next Thursday as part of a summer campaign to shore up West Germany's relations with Eastern Europe despite growing hostility between Moscow and Washington.

"Mr. Kohl feels his role in the alliance is as a frontrunner in relations with the Warsaw Pact," one diplomat said. "But how the pact countries see him is uncertain."

Diplomats say Mr. Kohl has pushed hard to meet Czechoslovak, Polish, Bulgarian and East German leaders over the next three months. But reactions have ranged from enthusiasm to reluctance.

The two-day Budapest visit will provide an early chance to sound out Socialist Bloc opinion after the ideological stocktaking of this week's Comecon economic summit in Moscow and the recent London meeting of Western leaders.

Mr. Kohl, target of a torrent of abuse in the Socialist Bloc media this year, holds no hope of persuading Moscow to resume talks on nuclear arms before November's U.S. Presidential election. But he clearly covets a role in keeping doors open for talks.

Budapest's traditionally good relations with Bonn seem to ensure a smooth opening to his campaign.

paign.

Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher met trenchant Soviet criticism of his support for the U.S. when he visited Moscow in May. But the Kremlin still seems to see West Germany as its main political contact as well as chief trading partner in the West.

Diplomats say Bonn's chief trading partner in the West.

Diplomats say Bonn's chief success has been in enticing Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chmoupek to Bonn next month. The visit, as yet unannounced, was originally set for last December and then cancelled when new U.S. Pershing-2 nuclear missiles were deployed in West Germany.

The Soviet Union has since responded by deploying its own new nuclear missiles in Czechoslovakia and East Germany.

"The Chmoupek visit is a feather in Mr. Kohl's cap," one diplomat said. "It gives the impression domestically that everything is back to normal after the deployments, even if Prague does not exactly see it that way."

One Czechoslovak official said the visit was not threatened by the recent temporary withdrawal of Prague's Bonn ambassador in protest over a Munich Congress of Sudetenland Germans, who were expelled from Czechoslovakia by allied agreement in 1945.

The meeting drew a chorus of



criticism from the official East European press accusing Mr. Kohl of supporting "Revanchism" — a desire to win back by force territories Germany lost to Poland, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia in World War II.

The Revanchist charge is a recurring irritation in ties with East-

ern Europe and has featured strongly in the Soviet press recently, prompting protests from Bonn. But officials here warn against taking official rhetoric too seriously.

Mr. Kohl has also fared well in relations with Bulgaria, the Soviet Union's closest ally. Bulgarian Leader Todor Zhivkov immediately accepted a Genscher invitation and is expected to come to Bonn in September.

But West Germany has had less success in its dealings with Poland and East Germany.

Diplomats say Mr. Genscher was keen to travel to Warsaw in July as the first Western Foreign Minister since the Polish army's clampdown in 1981 on the now-banned solidarity trade union.

But they say the idea was received very coolly in Poland, which would prefer a British or French minister to restore high-level contacts.

One diplomat discerned a split in the foreign ministry over whether Mr. Genscher should press plans for an early visit or bow to a feeling in the 10-nation European Community that the matter should be decided by an autumn ministerial meeting.

Most Socialist Bloc diplomats agree with a judgment expressed by one East German official in Bonn recently. "Relations with Bonn are satisfactory in the circumstances," he said. "But if the Moscow-Washington atmosphere

worsens much further a cutoff point will come and then it's back to bloc solidarity."

Since taking office in October 1982, the Christian Democratic Kohl has continued a policy of rapprochement with East Germany begun by Social Democrat chancellors in the 1970s.

A row over the death of a West German under questioning by East German border guards caused Communist leader Erich Honecker to cancel a visit planned

last year. Relations have improved since, boosted by a one-billion-mark (\$400-million) loan.

But with the approach of the rescheduled visit, expected for September, diplomats sense strong signs of nervousness in Bonn that an unexpected hitch could again thwart Mr. Kohl's efforts.

Some also suspect that Moscow, fearing East German economic dependence on the West, might counsel against the trip.

LETTERS

No need for Iranian oil

To the Editor:

With reference to the news published by your esteemed newspaper on May 22, 1984, under the topic "Taiwan, Iran conclude first barter trade accord", I wish to inform you, as representative for the interests of the Republic of China, that this news is absolutely groundless. I have been instructed by my government to write to you that the Republic of China never asked to be supplied with Iranian oil.

I would be most grateful if you can find a suitable occasion to publish this short letter in order your readers will know the truth.

Edmund Y. Liu
 Director
 Far East Commercial Office
 of the Republic of China.

Mind your English

To Ms. Randa Habib

The recent comments in Randa Habib's corner (The Jordan Times, Monday April 30, 1984) about poor spelling on JTV (Jordan Television) programme titles has inspired me to bring to your attention an even greater abuse of the English language.

I refer to the increasing use of abbreviations on English language signs and notices displayed publicly.

Of course I applaud and appreciate the use of dual language signs but as far as the English language side is concerned the signwriters of Amman are getting away with murder. I only hope that the Arabic side is not being similarly treated.

On the road to the new airport, I have seen a sign saying "J.A. Int. Airport". Having spent so many millions on the airport, surely we can stretch our resources to a full scale "Queen Alia International Airport" or make a conscious policy decision to encourage the popular name of "QAJA" (not sure how to pronounce it but we could work at it).

Actually at the airport it has to be said that the signs are generally good but on one particular door I have seen a nicely executed notice announcing "Dir. Gen. of JCAA". Here of all places the sign should be giving the good gentleman his full and official title. After all he is THE boss, and I would hate to think that any non-English speakers, be they Arabs or foreigners from other parts of the world, and I am sure the Director-General gets many visitors from overseas, would take this to be good and acceptable English and, horror of horrors, address him accordingly.

In another recently completed office block of a government department I have seen many abbreviated signs one example of which was "Civ.-Eng. Man". Sounding like some anthropologist's category of human development, after "stone age man", I in fact dare say you have seen many examples yourself. Even in my own office we have a notice saying "Pls. shut door" which I have been obliged to amend in hand writing.

I only hope that on the door of your own office there is not any sign announcing "Ran. Hab Cor" or some such.

Any way having got that said, I hope I will continue to enjoy your column.

Joe Metcalf



John Turner

OTTAWA — When John Turner challenged Pierre Trudeau for the leadership of Canada's Liberal Party in 1968, he told delegates: "I am not bidding for your consideration at some vague convention in 1984 when I have mellowed a bit."

But that is exactly what happened to the handsome young Montreal lawyer who rose to be Mr. Trudeau's finance minister, quit in a policy row in 1975, and had to wait almost nine years before victory was finally his.

Mr. Turner, 55, elected as Liberal Party leader Saturday, will now automatically become prime minister when Trudeau steps down later this month.

Carving out a comfortable career for himself as a Toronto corporate lawyer with directorships in many top companies, he had to bid his time for almost a decade as his apparent.

But the astute politician never lost touch, maintaining vital personal contacts so successfully that the 195 delegates who supported him against Mr. Trudeau back in 1968 were dubbed as the loyalist "195 Club".

He was born in England on June 7, 1929, the son of British journalist Leonard Turner, who died three years later.

Mr. Turner's mother Phyllis, a miner's daughter from British Columbia, returned to Canada to

build an impressive career as the country's top civil servant. She later married industrialist Frank Ross.

John Turner, educated at a Catholic school in Ottawa, went on to study political science at the University of British Columbia. There he became Canada's 100-yards athletic champion.

He won a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford in 1949 to read law. While there, the young athlete became friends with champion Milers Roger Bannister and Christopher Chatterway.

He went on to practise law in Montreal, where he first hit the headlines in 1958 when photos of him dancing with Britain's Princess Margaret at a party fuelled rumours of a transatlantic romance.

His entry into politics in 1962 was impressive. He topped the Tory favourite in a Montreal constituency to win a House of Commons seat.

Among his campaign workers was Geillis Kilgour, daughter of a Winnipeg life insurance company president. They married in 1964, and have four children, three boys and a girl who are always kept out of the public limelight.

When the charismatic Quebec lawyer Pierre Trudeau won the Liberal leadership in 1968, Mr.

History of Palestinian women movement

Part I

By Dr. Rita Giacaman

Introduction

IN THE recent past, much attention has been placed on examining the various elements of the Palestinian question.

Politicians and researchers alike have investigated several aspects of the problem including the results of aggression on Palestinian political, economic and social systems that prevailed before and after the 1948 and 1967 Arab-Israeli wars, the impact of dispossession and dispersion of Palestinians all over the world, and the impact of Israeli military occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip on Palestinian life in general.

Yet, in spite of the ever rising volume of both research and attention paid to Palestinians, very little has been devoted to the problems of Palestinian women and development under occupation.

This paper is an attempt to outline and set a framework for the systematic study of formal women's organisations within the overall context of Palestinian life. It is not intended to be an exhaustive study of the Palestinian women's movement and its organic linkage within the national struggle. Nor is it intended to cover the various organisational forms that the women's movement took both within and without the occupied territories.

It is an attempt to place the women's movement within the context of both resistance to Israeli military occupation through efforts to build and develop social institutions, and the increasing awareness of the need for women to organise.

Four themes are highlighted: The history of the Palestinian women's movement, evolution by trial and error, the new movement and development, and oppression and resistance.

Although both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip have largely gone through similar experiences, this information deals solely with information relating to the West Bank.

History

Palestinian women's organisations are by no means recent creations. They date at least as far back as 1921, with the birth of the

first Palestinian women's union in Jerusalem under the leadership of Zikha Al Shihabi.

Though very little material exists today that may shed some light on questions such as how and why these women were induced to organise, it is clear that a major reason for the creation of women's organisations was directly linked to the Palestinian national problem.

Before and after 1936, organised women were actively involved in training and providing first aid to Palestinian revolutionaries, in organising and participating in demonstrations, in distributing leaflets, and sending telegrams of protest and other activities directed against the British mandate authorities.

It also appears that their activities were co-ordinated with the activities of the Palestinian resistance movement of that time.

The 1948 Arab-Israeli war and the resulting flood of refugees to various parts of the Arab World, including whatever was left of Palestine that was not conquered by the Zionist army (the West Bank and the Gaza Strip) precipitated a further attempt by women to organise.

The direct linkage between the reaction of Palestinian women to disaster, lack of services, general chaos and the creation of new women's charitable societies, for instance, has been clearly spelled out in the Arab Women's Union's report of activities during the period of 1947 through 1950 in Bethlehem.

By 1950, the West Bank had become part of Jordan, and, in 1951, the Jordanian Ministry for Social Affairs was established. Once basic social services were re-established by the Jordanian government and other voluntary agencies and Palestinian refugees were being tended to, women's charitable societies turned to activities that were also centred around relief rather than the prevention of problems, such as child feeding programmes, distribution of food and money to the poor, and caring for the sick.

Several interesting observations can be made from an examination of the list of officially registered Palestinian women's organisations.

Firstly, only six societies have

been registered since 1967.

Secondly, the majority of the societies are located in major cities or towns, mostly in the Jerusalem governorate, with minimal village representation (about 70 per cent of the population of the West Bank lives in rural areas).

Thirdly, six of the societies are organised on a religious basis.

Fourthly, fifteen of the societies were officially registered in 1965, the same year that witnessed the birth of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Of interest also is the fact that nine out of twenty-one societies located in the Jerusalem governorate started operating some time very long before their official registration date. This is probably true of a number of societies in other areas as well.

The discrepancy between the dates of operation and official registration was found to be as small as six years (as in the case of the Saydat Al Bishara Greek Catholic Women's Society), and as large as thirty six years (as in the case of the Arab Women's Union-Jerusalem).

In its beginning years the Palestinian women's movement, as exemplified by women's capacity to organise into societies and their ability to participate in social and political life, was conceived and developed by women of bourgeois origin.

It was also led and dominated by women who came almost exclusively from the urban upper middle class, many of them connected by kinship or marriage to the political leadership.

A brief inspection of the names of the major women's movement leaders of the 30's, 40's and 50's does indeed confirm the observation that they came mostly from cities and enjoyed a relatively higher standard of living and status in society than average.

In a sense their backgrounds must have solved the logistic problems of organisation faced by most rural women including the problem of time at hand to participate in activities other than the assigned household chores, the rearing of families, the problem of restricted movement imposed by distance, and the traditional norms and customs.

Religious grouping, in addition, may also be a revealing factor in improving our understanding of the social class character of the

early women's movement, and should thus be systematically examined.

Perhaps a more important factor determining the ability of women to organise is education. It has been shown, for instance, that for the academic year 1944-45, 42 per cent of the students enrolled in urban governmental schools up to the seventh grade were women, while only 8 per cent of the students enrolled in rural governmental schools were women.

Although a direct relationship between education and the capacity for organisation cannot be established, the impact of education on the ability of women to organise, integrate into and participate in social and political life cannot be overestimated.

Thus, until 1967, women's charitable societies assisted the Jordanian government in the provision of basic services to the Palestinian population living in the area.

Their programmes included the establishment of first aid centres, basic health programmes, nurseries for needy children, homes for orphans, centres for the aged, the provision of monthly payments for poor families, and, in general, the social sponsorship of welfare activities that were largely dominated by bourgeois women and their perceptions of their roles as members of their society.

The fairly charitable nature of their work was, at times, even symbolised in their choices of names for their institutions (for instance, Hamalat Al Tib Greek Orthodox Society for the Relief of the 'Miserable Sick', the Home for Orphans, and the Carpet of the Forgiver's Greek Orthodox Women's Society).

Evolution by trial and error

As a result of the 1967 Arab-Israeli war and the fall of the West Bank and Gaza Strip under the Israeli occupation, women's charitable societies began to adopt new roles, based on the emerging needs of the changing times.

Although the impact of the military occupation on political, economic and social life was not readily apparent in the early years, women's societies, like all other Palestinian institutions which fell under the occupation, realised that their methods of operation had to be modified, if not altogether changed into ones that would allow them to operate under truly strenuous conditions, if at all.

In the early years of the occupation, women's societies were largely involved in general relief operations in a manner that was very similar to their initiative during the 1947-1950 period.

Soon, however, they began to realise the real significance of the occupation for Palestinian life in general.

The activities of the military occupier in terms of political repression, confiscation of land and water resources, attempts to change the demographic nature of the occupied area in such a way as to create yet another *fait accompli*, and the systematic destruction of the economic and social infrastructures, were all seen as attempts to destroy the Palestinian national culture.

Thus women's organisations, along with the existing local non-governmental institutions (Jordanian governmental institutions were taken over by the Israeli military government), saw themselves as the only structures left that would be able to inhibit the destruction of the social inf-



A poster designed by Palestinian women organisations to symbolise resistance to Israeli occupation.

rastructure and prepare the way for reconstruction of Palestinian society in the future.

It was these realisations that resulted in a qualitative change in the perspective, activities and composition of the women's movement, in particular during the 70's.

This reflected itself in the adoption of literacy programmes, the creation of committees for the preservation of heritage and culture, and others aimed at fulfilling the unmet needs of the occupied population.

Their efforts, though at times remarkable, remained limited. The conditions of the occupation, in particular the absence of a national government interested in the welfare of the people, were dictating a new role with a new perspective guiding activities.

The nature of the situation demanded from the Palestinian institutions a developmental role and a self-reliant perspective, requiring flexibility of vision that allowed for the growth and development of institutions in a manner compatible with the developing needs of the Palestinians.

It also necessitated the fulfilment of the as yet neglected needs of the rural population, which constituted 70 per cent of the total population.

With some exceptions women's charitable societies were largely unable to fill that function. They were, in general, unable to extract themselves from the charitable perspective, and their efforts, in spite of their efforts to fill the gap, remained a palliative treatment to a recurring disease.

Exceptions did exist, however, including the initiatives of both Inash Al Usra in Al Bireh and the Arab Women's Union in Bethlehem.

In the case of Inash Al Usra, activities for the first two years after the 1967 war were largely centred around the relief of refugees and the families of martyrs.

Soon, however, it was faced with the inability to deal with the large volume of people that flooded the society seeking ass-

istance, including villagers from the surrounding area.

Both financial and logistic factors thus precipitated a new change in outlook.

Inash Al Usra began to experiment with the idea of providing people needing assistance with the means to enable them to earn income, rather than continuing to rely on the society to provide help.

The first productive initiatives, including a sewing project for women and a food preservation and packaging scheme, were both aimed at utilising women's labour for income.

But these first experiences ended in failure: Marketing problems and competition from Israeli goods were listed as major causes of this failure.

Their initial attempts at chicken farming also failed, primarily as a result of a labour shortage, lack of know-how and problems with transportation.

But the society did not give up. It recognised its failings and re-oriented its efforts towards traditional products which did not face competition from Israeli products and imported commodities.

These included traditionally embroidered objects, pottery and woven straw items.

Their success has been modest, but these projects still exist and are afloat financially.

Inash Al Usra also developed its marketing capacity by agreeing with national and local private institutions to buy its food products. The society even tried to move into the villages.

...We tried to go where needy people are rather than have them go through the difficulty of coming to us."

The society established four village centres in 1970 only to be hit by a military order to close down the centres for "security reasons".

Once again, the society did not give up, and managed to overcome the military order by centralising activities and creating an effective network reaching villages without the need for village centres.

Randa Habib's

No more secrets

WHEN I am in my office it is enough for me to dial number 6 twice and before finishing the number I am surprised to hear a conversation between two persons calling each other and totally unaware that they are heard.

Those situations can sometimes be very "educating". Last day for example I learnt in details how to stuff vine leaves and what is the best way to cook okra.

Another time the secretary bursting with laughter asks me to take the phone and to listen ... On the other end we heard the voices of two women using the worst possible insults and blaming each other for flirting with a certain Assem.

And then there are the dates that are made on the "bride" namely the ring that links the Fourth Circle to Shmeissani. The young girl tells the boy that she would be there with her parents. The young man asks where they would be parked and promises to be the nearest possible to them, and then they plan how to find some time for being alone.

The real dates are also made on the phone and can be heard. The same goes for commentaries, simple, important and private. When we think that all this can be heard we cannot help but worry. So many problems can arise because there are no secrets any more.

But it is not only on the telephone that one can get into the private lives of people. The other day my son called me and he was very excited because "something was happening" on the TV. When he opened the TV and before selecting a specific channel he was surprised to hear voices. It was (again) a telephone conversation between a man and a woman who seemed madly in love, but that was not the end of it.

Once the call was over the gentleman dialed another number and as strange as it may seem we could hear the movement of the dial then the ringing at the other end followed by the "hello" of the person who answered.

What is happening? We have a new telephone system and telephone numbers have doubled, the 6 became 66, the 44 are 74, some 23 have become 44 other 44 remained 44, there are also 67 in certain areas etc... Consequently with all this intricate changes the lines are becoming entangled ... There is nothing to be proud of... As to the incident of the TV it seems that this can happen with certain types of TV's which have a first channel empty and when cordless phones are involved... So be careful.

China to save panda

By Anthony Barker
Reuter

WOLONG, China (R) — The Chinese government has decided to resettle 1,800 Tibetans and other minority people to give giant pandas space to roam in the Wolong nature reserve in western China.

The delicate decision to uproot and raise the homes of the highlanders, at a time when China is stressing concern for ethnic minorities, shows Peking's political will to preserve the endangered animals. But some of the people are refusing to go.

"We are not going to leave. This is where I was born, we are used to it," 35-year-old Mr. Li Jiaxing, dressed in the local costume of long blue gown with black turban, told reporters.

Other local people said they were unhappily resigned to the move, although one old man seemed unaware that the little communities of wooden houses by the Pitiao river, which stretches deep into the Wolong reserve in northwestern Sichuan, were doomed.

The reserve's director, Mr. Lai Binghui, said the state council (cabinet) in Peking had approved the resettlement and allowed three years to transfer the people to another site, but since last year the measure had become desperately urgent.

Since then 95 per cent of the reserve's arrow bamboo, the pandas' usual food, has flowered and withered to let new shoots grow. The process occurs every few decades and makes the plants inedible for several years.

One panda has already died and at least 60 of the reserve's remaining 100 pandas are threatened. To aggravate the situation, the last five per cent of the bamboo may soon flower and wither.

Forester Mr. Liu Jimin pointed to dry brown stalks, the remains of arrow bamboo, among lush vegetation at 2,600 metres above sea level in Yingxiang Gully. "All of this area used to have pandas until last year. Now they have moved away."

To find food, the shy animals must come down from their mist-shrouded slopes to below 600 metres, where other edible bamboo varieties grow. But this is where the highlanders live.

"It's not a simple process to persuade the people to leave. You can't just force them out," Mr. Shi Junyi, a forestry ministry panda expert, told Reuters.

"At first they were suspicious. Now they are slowly coming round and younger people think life will be better in their new homes. But the old people are less happy, which is quite understandable," he added.

The authorities have earmarked a million yuan (\$500,000) to build new homes on a commune 25 kilometres away and they have built a couple of two-storey model brick houses for villagers to see.

After the clearance only a research and breeding centre will remain at the bottom of the Pitiao valley, near the fringes of the 200,000 hectare reserve.

In the research centre, scientists are studying nine pandas in captivity, trying to get them to mate or to reproduce through artificial insemination.

So far they have failed and only one wild baby panda has been born in Wolong since last year.

'Save the panda'
A large notice board by the Wolong administration building reads: "Love the motherland, love the nation's treasure, save the panda." It reflects China's use of patriotism to rally support for rescue efforts.



Palestinian children raise their hands in "V" sign at a graduation ceremony at a women's education centre.

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Pescarolo wins his 4th Le Mans

LE MANS, France (R) — French veteran Henri Pescarolo and his experienced West German partner Klaus Ludwig added their names to the Le Mans honours list yet again Sunday.

The pair emerged victorious from the 52nd 24-hour sports car classic in a Porsche 956 which appeared to run almost faultlessly from the start.

It was 41-year-old Pescarolo's fourth triumph in 18 Le Mans attempts. But the ex-Grand Prix driver had waited 10 years to add to the hat-trick he achieved from 1972 to 1974. Ludwig's previous win was in 1979.

Pescarolo and Ludwig were in 30th place with the race one hour old, but they moved through the order and wrested control with about eight hours remaining.

Once clear at the front, the duo cruised away from their rivals and finished two laps ahead of the second-placed Porsche of Frenchman Jean Rondeau and his American team-mates John Paul Jr. and Preston Henn.

David Hobbs of Britain, Philippe Streiff of France and South African Sarel van der Merwe were third on 350 laps — a long way behind the 359 completed by the winners. In fact, Pescarolo and Ludwig travelled precisely 4,900.276 kms.

Only two other drivers have

won Le Mans four times — Jacky Ickx six and fellow Belgian Olivier Gendebien four.

The retirement list was long with only 20 cars out of 53 starters staying the course.

Frenchman Bob Wollek and his Italian co-driver Sandro Nannini were among the survivors but must have been disappointed with seventh place in their works Lancia after contesting the lead for much of the first day and night.

The pair were in contention until early Sunday when gearbox trouble kept them in the pits for long periods and their chance was lost.

Lancia, undoubtedly the fastest if not the most reliable car in endurance racing, were looking for a Le Mans breakthrough in the absence of the official Porsche factory team.

West Germany relieved after beating Romania

LENS, France (R) — Title-holders West Germany, living on their nerves in France, gained relief with a 2-1 win over Romania in a tense Group Two clash in the European Soccer Championship here Sunday.

Rudi Voeller, staking a claim to fill the gap left so long by the great Gerd Mueller, netted the two vital goals which could well prove West Germany's passport to the semi-finals.

Marcel Coras did nothing to calm West Germany's shredded nerves by catching the defending champions napping to give Romania a temporary equaliser less than a minute into the second half. But West German det-

ermination proved too much for the mercurial Romanians and Voeller's goals in the 25th and 66th minutes saved the day for them.

West Germany must have thought they were never going to score after a goalless opening match against Portugal in Strasbourg and nothing to show for the pressure more than midway into the first half of Sunday's match.

But finally they got the goal they deserved when Norbert Meier gathered the ball deep on the left flank and crossed into the box where Voeller's flashing header thundered past Romania goalkeeper Silviu Lung.

Moses, Lewis excel at U.S. trials

LOS ANGELES (R) — The United States' two brightest track stars, hurdler Edwin Moses and sprinter Carl Lewis, highlighted the opening day of the U.S. Olympic Track and Field trials.

Moses, the world record holder and 1976 Olympic champion, gave further proof of his unbeatable style when he won the first heat of the 400-metre hurdles in 48.83 seconds.

The 28-year-old Moses, a clear favourite to win a second Olympic gold medal, has not lost a 400-metre hurdles race since August 26, 1977.

Lewis, who is expected to try and copy Jesse Owens' 1936 Olympics feat of winning four gold medals, began his quest with first-place finishes in the first and second heats of the 100-metre dash.

Hassan meets soccer delegates

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan met Sunday with delegations taking part in the Arab soccer tournament which started Saturday. He called on them to hold more tournaments "because of their importance to reinforce sports co-operation among youth of Arab states."

The meeting, at Prince Hassan's office, was attended by Minister of Culture and Youth Abdullah 'Oweidat.

The delegation members were guests of honour at an Iftar banquet hosted by Dr. 'Oweidat, Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Kawabdeh and President of the Jordanian Journalists Association Mahmoud Al Kayyed.

The three hosts gave speeches at the banquet outlining the importance of sports activities and co-operation in this field among clubs in Arab countries.

Piquet grabs pole position

MONTREAL (R) — Reigning World Champion Nelson Piquet placed his Brabham at the front of the grid for Sunday's Canadian Grand Prix motor race.

The Brazilian, who has yet to win points in the 1984 World Championship, shattered Frenchman Alain Prost's day-old practice record with a time of one minute 25.442 seconds, an average speed of 185.810 kph.

Prost, current World Championship leader on 28.5 points, completed the 4.41-km circuit in Friday's first timed practice at an average speed of 183.586 kph in

1:26.477. That time was blown out of sight by four other drivers Saturday as warm, dry conditions aided the scorching pace.

Prost, winner of the rain-shortened Monaco Grand Prix two weeks ago, was sidelined for most of the session after an engine flame-out in his McLaren. But he still managed to post the second-best qualifying time of 1:26.198.

Italy's Elio de Angelis, driving a Lotus, ranked third with a time of 1:26.306, ahead of Briton Derek Warwick's Renault in 1:26.420 and Frenchman Rene Arnoux' Ferrari, fifth in 1:26.549.

De Angelis finished sixth at Monte Carlo.

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هولاء صباي

Ivory Coast boosts rubber production to diversify economy

ABIDJAN (R) — The Ivory Coast, the world's biggest cocoa producer and a major coffee exporter, is rapidly increasing output of another commodity traded widely on international markets — rubber.

Annual production of natural rubber, nearly all of which is exported, totalled some 24,000 tonnes last year.

It is likely to reach 45,000 tonnes in two years and could exceed 90,000 tonnes in the early 1990s, industry sources and analysts say.

While output remains far below amounts produced by major exporters such as Malaysia, where production was 1.5 million tonnes last year, rubber has now become the Ivory Coast's third agricultural revenue earner.

A viable rubber industry will help reduce the present heavy dependence for export earnings on cocoa and coffee.

A slump in the world price of these commodities during 1981 and 1982 was partly responsible for a rise in the country's external debts, which are now estimated at between \$7 and \$8 billion and which Abidjan asked to have rescheduled last December.

Unsuccessful attempts

Official Ivorian attempts to boost sugar production have not been commercially viable while exports of palm oil have been hit by a slump in output linked to ageing trees.

Timber exports, formerly substantial, have suffered from felling of the country's forests and late implementation of reforestation schemes.

But the relatively recent efforts to boost rubber output have been highly successful and the quality of the final product is excellent, the sources and analysts say.

Some two-thirds of Ivorian rubber is produced by the state-controlled firm Ste Africaine De Plantations d'Heveas (SAPH).

Created in 1956 by private French interests worried about the threat to their operations posed by political instability in former French rubber-producing colonies such as Cambodia and Vietnam, SAPH has seen yields and output soar.

Seeds and rubber trees imported from the Far East have taken root and bloomed and SAPH output has increased from 1,400 tonnes in 1964 to over 16,000 tonnes last year.

Plantations owned by the company cover some 17,000 hectares (42,000 acres) against only 8,000

(20,000 acres) when the firm was set up and yields are now among the best in the world.

Packed from the outset by Ivorian President Felix Houphouët-Boigny and benefitting from French and international financial assistance as well as favourable climatic and soil conditions, SAPH's turnover and profits have risen steadily.

The firm's manager, Mr. Jean-Baptiste Amethier, forecasts SAPH output will rise by over 75 per cent in the next five years.

Mr. Amethier puts the firm's success down to planters' willingness to follow expert advice and also points to its policy of encouraging small-scale production at village level as well as the more traditional industrial plantations.

"All rubber production here is based on norms from Asia. We benefited from starting late and experts from the Far East have given us valuable advice," he told Reuters.

Officials from longer-standing rubber producers such as Malaysia and Thailand have recently visited the Ivory Coast to examine first-hand the village projects.

Prospects for the Ivory Coast's other main rubber-producing company, the Ste des Caoutchoucs de Grand Bereby (SOGB), in which the French tyre firm Michelin has a small stake, are no less rosy.

SOGB officials forecast output of some 4,400 tonnes in 1983/84 will rise to 12,000 tonnes in 1984/85.

The officials expect further large increases after 1985 as young rubber trees reach maturity.

And with economic recovery in the United States firmly established and major rubber importers such as West Europe and Japan now pulling out of recession, the short-term outlook for the industry is bright, the sources and analysts say.

Official moves to promote diversification of agricultural export crops have been launched in tandem with efforts to boost cultivation of staple foods such as rice, yams, plantain and manioc.

Agriculture stressed

As in the rest of West Africa, agricultural production in the Ivory Coast was hit by severe drought last year and the government now actively encourages projects aimed at cutting the country's large food import bill and persuading young Ivorians to cultivate the land rather than migrate to cities.

Latin American debtors step up pressure on Western creditors

CARACAS (R) — Squeezed by high interest rates and deepening economic recession, seven Latin American debtor nations meet this week to map out their own formula for survival.

Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo said their meeting in Cartagena, Colombia, on Thursday and Friday would in part represent a response to the summit of Western leaders in London.

Western bankers' fear the meeting may herald the formation of a debtors' cartel, but senior Latin American officials say it will simply try to put pressure on creditors to discuss the region's demands for easier terms.

"What we are seeking with this meeting is to establish a regional consensus for dialogue with the industrialised nations," said Mr. Enrique Iglesias, secretary-general of the U.N. Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA).

Before the London summit the seven — Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela — made a joint appeal to the Western leaders for dialogue.

But Ecuador's President Osvaldo Hurtado said the response was unsatisfactory and official spokesmen in Brazil said the summit's final declaration did not meet Latin America's aspirations.

The Western leaders offered "goodwill and co-operation" but reaffirmed the key role in debt negotiations of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), whose

tough policies are blamed by developing nations for exacerbating their problems.

The Latin Americans, on the other hand, want a new deal along the lines they formulated at an economic conference in Quito last January. These include:

— A 15-year minimum for debt rescheduling with seven years' grace;

— Reduced interest rates;

— Limiting debt service payments to a set proportion of export income;

— Greater access for Latin America's exports;

— Renewed credit.

Finance and foreign ministers will try to agree on a common platform in Cartagena based on these demands.

"If we don't resolve this now, we could be facing a financial collapse," said Mr. Sebastian Alegret, secretary-general of the Caracas-based Latin American Economic System (SELA).

The meeting is likely to be overshadowed by Argentina's current wrangles with the IMF over how to maintain payments on its \$43.6 billion external debt.

Argentina last week sent the IMF a letter of intent proposing a programme of economic expansion and higher real wages instead of the severe deflation the IMF invariably prescribes as a

condition for a new loan.

Demanding special treatment because of Argentina's 568 per cent inflation and the economic legacy of eight years' military rule, President Raul Alfonsín says his plan is non-negotiable.

Analysts say Mr. Alfonsín fears the effect of further austerity on Argentina's fragile democracy, but both sides know that while Argentina needs fresh funds, its Western creditor banks, already shaken by the Latin American debt crisis, will be reluctant to refuse the terms he offers.

The IMF, whose lead the bankers usually follow, fears that easier terms for Argentina would set a precedent for other debtor states. But ECLA Secretary Iglesias said Latin America had already made huge sacrifices and any more would stifle the region's economic development for years.

"We can take austerity but not outright recession," he said.

Latin America owes \$340 billion, half the total Third World debt and the figure is expected to soar to over \$400 billion by the end of this year as interest and fees charged on rescheduling pile up.

Four countries — Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and Venezuela — owe 75 per cent of this debt, and cracks are already beginning to appear in a first round of rescheduling and IMF agreements reached last year.

Economic officials say there is now a general consensus that the problem is political and cannot be left to the banks alone.

Evidence of this is the par-

ticipation of foreign ministers in the Cartagena meeting and signs that they are having increased influence in the debt strategies of their governments.

Mexico, whose \$87 billion foreign debt is the region's second largest, has up till now been a bankers' showcase and its creditors recently offered to extend rescheduling periods.

But diplomatic sources in Mexico City this week said the country had hardened its stance vis-à-vis creditors in recent months and that this might indicate the ascendancy of the foreign ministry over the more conservative finance ministry.

The move to bring debt negotiations into the political arena has met a lukewarm reception from creditors.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan told reporters in London last week that governments should not get involved.

But banker proposals for a cap on interest rates and multi-year rescheduling for nations that accept IMF adjustment programmes are seen by Latin America as insufficient.

Food riots have already been seen in Brazil and the Dominican Republic this year and last month Bolivia suspended payments on bank debts.

Diplomats in Peru said the current state of emergency to tackle a civil service strike underlined the political cost of harsh economic adjustment programmes recommended by the IMF.

Fierce debate rages over future of Italy's wage indexation system

ROME (R) — Few Italians understand how it works and fewer still dare to contemplate life without it, but employers and trade unionists alike say Italy's expensive system of inflation-linked pay rises badly needs overhauling.

Since the mid-1970s, the so-called "scala mobile" (wage escalator) has provided millions of Italians with an effective shelter against inflation, paying out quarterly wage and salary increases at a flat rate.

But the complex system, negotiated in its present form when trade union bargaining power was at its peak, has been increasingly criticised by union employers and union leaders themselves are critical of its unforeseen side-effects.

They say the flat-rate increases have eroded workers' pay differentials, while government economists say the system thwarts efforts to cut inflation, now at 11.7 per cent a year.

Some commentators also say the scala mobile, which accounts for a large proportion of workers' pay rises, has reduced the unions' traditional role of annual wage bargaining.

"Many employees have up to four-fifths of their salary increases

on automatic pilot and over the years this has reduced the role of the unions," Mr. Vittoria Sivo, a labour correspondent of the Rome daily La Repubblica told Reuters.

Despite an apparent consensus on the need for change, efforts by the government to curtail scala mobile payments by law this year have run into furious opposition from Italy's biggest union confederation, the communist-dominated CGIL.

The other two major confederations, the Catholic-led CISL and centrist-dominated UIL, back the government legislation, which is gradually going through parliament in the face of fierce obstruction by the opposition communists.

The government initiative has exposed chronic divisions among the unions, which are already weakened by falling membership as a result of recession and de-industrialisation.

"All the unions know they are coming to the end of an era and that the current system based on the scala mobile cannot continue for long. But the problem is finding an alternative," says Mr. Paolo Leon, a labour sociologist at

Rome university.

Leaders at the 4.5-million-strong CGIL say they have made a stand because most of their members are semi-skilled workers, who would lose most from a cut in scala mobile payments.

They said the CISL, with around three million members, can afford to gamble on the system's future as most of its members are in white collar employment in the relatively well protected public sector.

CISL spokesman Mr. Renato Angelini believes the cuts in scala mobile payments are essential if the government's anti-inflation strategy is to be effective.

"Governments, in other European countries have imposed much stiffer sacrifices without even trying to reach agreement with the unions," he said.

Mr. Leon says the CGIL is under strong pressure from its membership to resist changes to the scala mobile made after January last year when the three confederations agreed to a permanent 15 per cent annual cut in indexed payouts.

"Rank and file members simply cannot believe, at a time when the

labour movement is weak, that there is anything to be gained from switching from a system of automatic pay rises to free collective bargaining," he said.

Each of the three main labour confederations has proposed a different approach to reforming the scala mobile.

The CGIL has recommended that the scala mobile's payouts should be on a sliding scale according to worker category, so that differentials could be restored gradually.

At present, each one-point jump in an index based on a basket of services and essential household items triggers an across-the-board payout of 6,800 lire \$4 for some 20 million Italians.

The CISL argues that the CGIL proposal would be unworkable and has suggested that the scala mobile should cover only a set proportion of income.

Mr. Guido Carli, the former governor of the Bank of Italy, has backed a proposal from the minority UIL confederation for indexed payments to be made every six months instead of every three as at present.

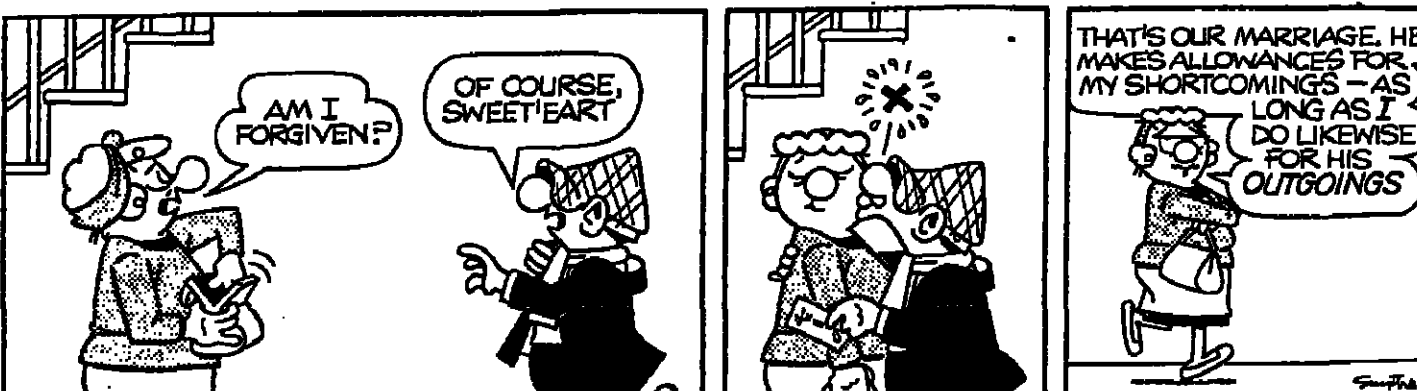
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Saudi riyal deposit rates ease in Bahrain

BAHRAIN (R) — Interest rates on large Saudi riyal deposits at offshore banks in Bahrain eased in quiet trading Sunday amid some renewed lending interest from banks, dealers said.

"Some banks with funds decided they liked these levels, so bids in the market slipped and offers are definitely available," one dealer said.

Expectations that the market would stay fairly liquid until end-month re-inforced the easier tone despite a stronger dollar.

Day-in-day rates remained at about 11 10-1/2 per cent, firmer than late last week, suggesting some lenders had moved funds into longer periods from short dates.

One-month deposits were steady at 10-1/2 per cent, but three-month funds slipped 1/4 point to 10-1/4 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, JUNE 18, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: One of those days when you can put into motion your most extraordinary and clever ideas so consider your talents and how you can utilize them.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A good day to get together with a group of friends and show them how fond you are of them.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Plan how to make your activities more interesting and exciting this week. Have fun socially.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Plan the trip that can help to extend your interests and also gain more local assistance. Take no risks walking or driving.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Consult with one who has much experience in financial affairs and modern systems.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) If you are more direct with persons who know how to put things across, you can get much help from them now.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Study your newspaper and other periodicals for ideas that can help you to improve your job. Be wise.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get into some new form of entertainment with the one you love and have a delightful time together.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Bring modern gadgets into the home that will make it more functional and please those who dwell with you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Show your admiration for those who inspire you and try to emulate them. Make the evening happy with a loved one.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Good day for improving interests and property so that you have a greater abundance in the future.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study which of your friends are helpful to you, and weed out those that simply waste your valuable time.

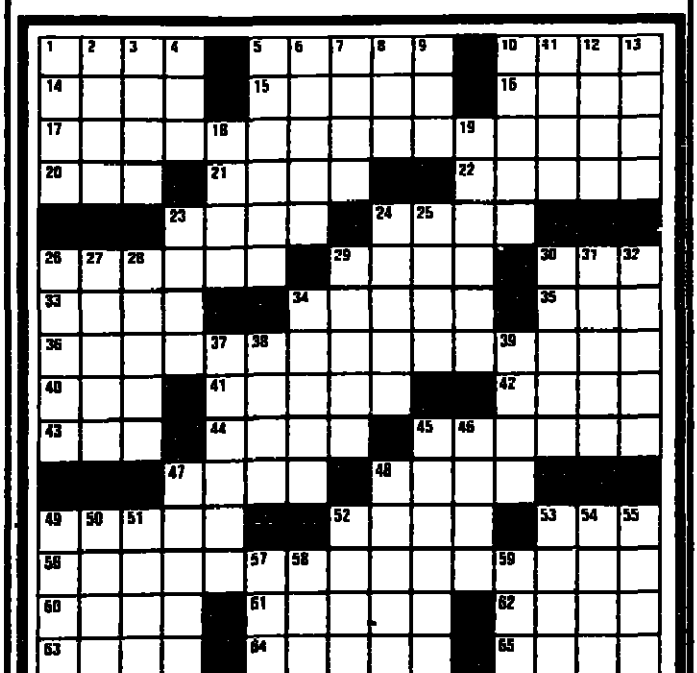
PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Plan the strategy that best can gain your finest ambitions and personal longings and then carry through wisely.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be very apt to get into a new kind of career, so send your New Age type of progeny to the right modern schools that will be best for him or her. Teach to act in standard fashion so that your progeny will not seem bizarre.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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THE Daily Crossword by Nancy McCarthy

ACROSS	30 The whole	53 One way to	24 Betimes
1 Goalie's	33 De — (ex-	56 Big name	25 Sheridan
specialty	cessive)	in tennis	and Sothorn
5 Nonsense	34 Horn	60 As to	26 Additional
10 Hair-do	35 Sheepish	61 Greene of	27 Smooth the
14 Maple	sound	the movies	feathers
15 Roof	36 Big name	62 Equal	28 Lively
features	in tennis	63 Odense	dance
16 Onus	40 Comic	native	29 Vague's
17 Big name	strip	64 Ranch	missiles
in tennis	41 Clothing	animal	30 Concerning
20 Low island	42 Control	65 Bland	31 Soup scoop
21 Minkies	43 Genetic		32 Stratium
22 Mythical	letters		34 "Odyssey"
heraldic	44 Sleuths	DOWN	enchanted
beasts	45 Repartee	1 Dump the	37 Kind
23 Breads	47 Mystery	passer	38 Small bird
24 Aplece	48 Br. title	2 Pine	39 Fr. river
25 Resist	49 Sacrificial	3 Extremely	40 Pennant
29 Destructive	slab	4 Silkwoman	46 Egyptian
element	52 It. river	5 Square's	god
		militar. var.	47 Street show
		6 Talks	48 Male bee
		7 wildly	49 In the center
		7 Buri the	50 Singer
		singer	Cantrill
		8 — diem	51 Operate a
		9 Superlative	lathe
		ending	52 "God's"
		10 Moslem god	Little —
		11 Hoodwink	53 Entreaty
		12 Comedienne	54 Turk. flag
		Martha	55 Phoenician
		13 Casino	capital
		concern	57 Big city
		18 States	railways
		19 Classical	58 In no man-
		school	ner
		23 Cheap	59 Choose
		cigar	



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THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ORVAS

TWAHR

WOFELL

TEXMEP

Answer: " " " " TO YOU

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: EAGLE GASSY KITTEN MYSTIC

Answer: What that long tour made him—"SEE" SICK

Turner replaces Trudeau as Liberal Party leader

OTTAWA (R) — Former Finance Minister John Turner, returning triumphant from almost nine years of political exile, has won the ruling Liberal Party leadership to become Canada's 17th prime minister.

Mr. Turner, who quit Pierre Trudeau's cabinet in 1975 in a policy dispute, took over from one of the Western World's longest-serving leaders by beating six Trudeau cabinet ministers in a drama-packed party convention Saturday night.

Mr. Turner, 55, will automatically take over as prime minister of Canada when Mr. Trudeau steps down at the end of this month from the political stage he has dominated for so long.

It took two ballots for the silver-haired and handsome Turner to capture the prize he first tried to win back in 1968 when he ran a distant third to the charismatic Trudeau.

The two Liberal stars split in 1975 when Mr. Turner walked out

of Mr. Trudeau's cabinet in a row over wage and price controls.

The "crown prince in waiting" then spent nine years in Toronto as a corporate lawyer with a clutch of top company directorships.

In Saturday night's crucial second ballot in an Ottawa hockey arena, Mr. Turner captured almost 55 per cent of the vote from about 3,500 delegates.

Mr. Turner, frontrunner from the moment he entered the leadership race three months ago, may be tempted to call a snap general election to cash in on the Liberals' recent resurgence in opinion polls after two and a half years in the doldrums.

The field was whittled down to three contenders for the second ballot and Mr. Turner took it eas-

ily with 1,862 votes, followed by Energy Minister Jean Chretien with 1,368. Economic Development Minister Donald Johnston finished a distant third with 192.

"I fell very exhilarated," an exuberant Turner told reporters as the convention erupted in cheers from his hundreds of supporters waving red and yellow banners.

Asked if he would offer Mr. Chretien a job in the new Canadian cabinet, Mr. Turner quickly replied: "Of course."

The British-born, Oxford-educated Turner, eager to halve Canada's yawning deficit and run a less interventionist government, has pledged to win over western Canada for the Liberals, whose present powerbase is French-speaking Quebec.

Mr. Turner, whose daughter and three young sons burst into tears of joy when the result was announced, called in his victory speech Saturday night for party

unity after the leadership battle.

"We are all in one political family. I will need all your help," he told cheering supporters.

Mr. Turner, educated at a Catholic school in Ottawa, studied political science at the University of British Columbia, and won a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford in 1949 to read law.

In his first press conference as prime minister-designate, Mr. Turner refused to say whether he would call a snap summer election.

Fielding questions fluently in both French and English, he told reporters: "As to how you should plan your summer vacations, I really can't give you much insight into that at the moment."

On the foreign policy front, he said he would welcome an early meeting with President Reagan and added: "Our most important relationship is with the United States. We are the co-tenants of a continent."

6 EC states vote for parliament

BRUSSELS (R) — Six European Community states began voting in the second leg of elections to the European Parliament Sunday with much of the continent basking in the bright sunshine of a June heatwave.

Some 150 million voters in West Germany, France, Italy, Greece, Belgium and Luxembourg were eligible to cast ballots to choose a total of 294 deputies in the 434-seat assembly.

After lacklustre campaigns dominated by domestic issues, officials predicted a low turnout in

most countries despite last-minute appeals from politicians to cast aside widespread disenchantment with the state of the 10-nation Community.

The turnout in Britain, the Netherlands and Ireland, which voted last Thursday, was smaller than in the first direct vote for the Strasbourg-based assembly in 1979. The poll in Denmark was said to have been boosted only by anti-Community voters.

In Greece and Belgium, where voting is compulsory, queues were

reported at polling stations Sunday. Luxembourg, the smallest Community state, is also holding a general election.

Political passions have been whipped up in Greece, where the poll is seen as a popularity test for Socialist Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu.

Soldiers were helping police guard polling stations after a campaign marked by violent clashes.

In France the election is billed more as a referendum on three years of Socialist government than a vote on Community issues.

Mondale: U.S. public ready for female vice-president

NORTH OAKS, Minnesota (R) — Walter Mondale, starting a week of interviews with prospective running mates, said Saturday the American people were ready to accept a woman as vice president.

Standing beside him at a news conference near his home here was New York Congresswoman Geraldine Ferraro, chairwoman of the Democratic Party's Platform Committee and one of the strong prospects to be Mr. Mondale's running mate against the Republican Reagan-Bush ticket in November.

The former vice president, who met with Ms. Ferraro to discuss policy objectives for the presidential campaign, said they had agreed not to discuss the number two position until after the party platform has been finalized for the July nominating convention in San Francisco.

But Mr. Mondale said he thought "the American people are perfectly willing to accept" a woman as vice president.

"As a matter of fact this is a case where the people are substantially ahead of the politicians," Mr. Mondale said. "This is a prejudice that I think the American people have but behind them."

Mr. Mondale said Ms. Ferraro met his criteria to be vice president and he praised the three-term congresswoman from the New York district of Yonkers as "one of the stars of our political party."

But he said he would neither include nor exclude her now as a vice presidential prospect.

Mr. Mondale said he wants the party platform to "emphasize the need for a strategy for economic growth... necessary to build our future, and the need to have a strong emphasis on arms control, so we can reduce the risks that those God-awful weapons will ever be used."

The party convention will consider adoption of the platform as a statement of policies and principles for the presidential campaign and for a Democratic administration.

Ms. Ferraro said she has offered platform briefings to Colorado Senator Gary Hart and the Reverend Jesse Jackson, the two other Democratic presidential hopefuls.

Mr. Mondale lost as President Carter's running mate to Reagan in 1980.

Pope says priests must be obedient to bishops, Rome

SION, Switzerland (R) — Pope John Paul insisted Sunday on the obedience of Roman Catholic priests to their local bishop and the Holy See, in an ordination service a few kilometres from the seminary of dissident Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre.

The 78-year-old French prelate was not on hand to hear the Pope's homily at an open-air service in bright sunshine at Sion Airport on the final day of the six-day papal visit to this country.

The rebel churchman ordained 26 deacons and sub-deacons recently at Ecône near Sion, according to Swiss press reports, and the Vatican has not replied to a request for Archbishop Lefebvre to meet Pope John Paul while he is in this mountain canton of Valais.

He was suspended from priestly duties by the late Pope Paul VI for

ordinating priests in defiance of the Holy See. He differs from Rome over ecumenism, the Latin mass and other reforms sanctioned by the second Vatican council.

Addressing a large crowd, the Pope said Rhone Valley people here had "known how to keep alive their Catholic faith and their Christian traditions, in communion with the bishop of Rome, the successor of Peter."

The Pope said the nine Swiss priests whom he ordained Sunday owed obedience to their local bishop who, for his part, was united with the supreme pontiff in Rome.

"By being obedient to these two, the priest lives in communion with the whole church," the Pope said. "He does not dispose of the gifts of God in an arbitrary manner."

Ortega leaves for Moscow

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Sandinista junta Co-ordinator Daniel Ortega left Saturday for a three-day trip to Moscow, saying Nicaragua might break off future talks with the United States if it does not stop giving money to rebels trying to overthrow the government.

During a brief airport news conference, Mr. Ortega said he was going to the Soviet Union to talk about "the fear of North American aggression against Nicaragua" and to solicit economic aid.

"If the Reagan administration urges Congress for more money for the counter-revolution, Nicaragua contemplates the suspension of the beginning of the dialogue," Mr. Ortega said.

The government's troops have been fighting the Honduran-based Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, in the north and the Costa Rican-based Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, in the south.

Poles vote in National election

WARSAW — Poles began voting Sunday in national elections which the authorities hope will demonstrate revived public confidence in Communist rule after the upheavals of the Solidarity period.

The elections for 110,000 local councillors are the first in Poland since martial law was declared and the independent labour movement was suppressed in December 1981.

Underground Solidarity leaders, headed by the Warsaw radical Zbigniew Bujak, have urged a boycott of the polls, and other activists in the capital have called for a peaceful march later Sunday to show their opposition to the elections.

The official PAP News Agency said first voters arrived at polling stations immediately they opened at 6 a.m. (0400 GMT). It said that in the Baltic port of Gdansk, birthplace of Solidarity, the turnout was already large by early morning.

Voting is not compulsory, but the authorities have made clear they will treat a turnout of 70 per cent as a good result for them.

Poland's Eastern European allies routinely proclaim turnouts of more than 90 per cent.

Some 26 million of Poland's 36.7 million people are eligible to vote. As usual on a Sunday in this overwhelmingly Roman Catholic nation, many attended morning church services.

Amnesty accuses Sri Lankan forces of executing Tamils

LONDON (AP) — Amnesty International, the world's foremost human rights movement, Monday accused Sri Lankan security forces of executing scores of people in random shootings.

The London-based organisation published eyewitness accounts of some of the killings, and appealed to the island's government to stop them.

In its report, Amnesty called on Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene to establish an independent inquiry into alleged killings of minority Tamils by government troops during racial riots on the island in July 1983 and in subsequent attacks as recently as last April.

It also urged Mr. Jayewardene to restrict the government's wide powers of arrest and detention and suspend emergency laws permitting the disposal of bodies without judicial inquests, which it said could "facilitate extrajudicial killings by the security forces."

Violence on the Indian Ocean island, formerly the British colony of Ceylon, erupted in late July 1983 between the majority Sinhalese and the three million Tamils who are demanding independence.

Nearly 400 people died in anti-Tamil rioting after Tamil guerrillas ambushed an army patrol in Jaffna, killing 13 soldiers. Tamil nationalist groups are fighting a guerrilla war to win control of the northern and eastern portions of the island where they are a majority.

Amnesty, which has won the Nobel peace prize, published what it said was evidence of "extrajudicial killings" of unarmed Tamils by security forces in the latter half of 1983 and reports of further killings last March and April.

It said the government had failed to investigate adequately the alleged killings by soldiers and air force personnel. It said it knew of no criminal prosecutions against those believed responsible.

Furthermore, extra-judicial killings have not been officially condemned, it said. "The government has merely stated that it 'does not condone' such killings of unarmed civilians or, in other cases, has sought to justify them by stating that civilians were killed 'during an exchange of fire' with 'terrorists,' without however permitting inquest proceedings to be held," it added.

Amnesty presented 43 narrative accounts by witnesses as "evidence for its conclusion" that nearly all 51 killings of Tamil citizens by security forces in late July 1983 in the Jaffna peninsula of northern Sri Lanka were "deliberate shootings of unarmed civilians," apparently in retaliation for the killings of 13 soldiers on July 23.

It also cited first-hand accounts that six killings by security forces between August and November 1983 "include instances of extrajudicial executions."

Amnesty also expressed "grave concern" about the government's inability to protect 53 Tamil political prisoners killed in Welikada prison on July 25 and 27 by rioting Sinhalese inmates and called for an independent investigation into the killings.

Last March and April, Amnesty said it received reports of renewed

executions by security forces in the Jaffna peninsula.

On March 28, "the seven people shot dead in Chunnakam and the one man later shot dead at Mallakam died as a result of deliberate random shootings by air force personnel," it said.

Amnesty said the government had admitted that several of those killed by government troops at a crowded market place in Chunnakam had included "bystanders" caught by an "exchange of fire with terrorists."

But it said leading Jaffna citizens had signed statements claiming the shootings were an "unprovoked and arbitrary" attack on Tamil citizens.

On April 9-12, at least 32 Tamils and unofficially as many as 234 were allegedly killed by government troops in raids on towns near Jaffna, Amnesty said. Most of the bodies were burned within 24 hours and no inquests were held into the killings, it said.

The attacks were apparently made in retaliation for reported bombings of a Buddhist temple and a Sinhalese school by Tamil extremists, it said.

Amnesty acknowledged that the Sri Lankan government had faced "serious problems of internal security" and said it condemned, as a matter of principle, "the killing or torture of individuals detained by anyone."

But while Amnesty recognised that the Sri Lanka government has "a responsibility to bring to justice those against whom there is evidence of involvement in violent acts," it said violations of human rights by security forces "can never be justified."

Gandhi appeals for communal peace

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has moved to curb the activities of Sikh separatists based overseas by writing to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and appealing for communal peace on Australian and Canadian radio.

A spokesman for India's External Affairs Ministry confirmed Sunday that Mrs. Gandhi had written to Mrs. Thatcher.

But he would not comment on an Indian newspaper report that the message sought London's help in containing agitation for a separate state in Punjab by Sikh militants living in Britain.

The Times of India newspaper's London correspondent said the British government had decided to distribute copies of a telex message from the British High Commission in New Delhi denying that the most sacred shrine in the centre of Amritsar's Golden Temple complex had been damaged in the army's assault on Sikh gunmen in the precincts on June 6.

The paper said the telex message had been sent by the high commission to the Foreign Office in London and that the decision to release it followed the receipt of Mrs. Gandhi's letter.

No details of the contents of Mrs. Gandhi's letter were available from official sources here.

Sikhs have mounted angry protests in several overseas capitals against the storming of the shrine in which 84 soldiers and more than 900 Sikhs were reported killed in fierce hand-to-hand fighting.

Seven Sikhs were arrested in Hong Kong Sunday outside the home of the Indian Commissioner to the colony during a protest against the temple take.

In India, the Sikh's main party, the Akali Dal, called for a nationwide day of prayer Sunday to commemorate those who died in the attack. Security forces were on alert in several areas in case of renewed unrest but no incidents were reported during daylight hours.

Armed police cordoned off the main Sikh shrines in New Delhi, but there was no violence as several hundred Sikhs, many of them wearing black turbans in mourning for the dead, gathered for special prayers.

Soldiers and para-military units were deployed near Sikh temples in the Punjab state capital of Chandigarh, but Reuters correspondent Chaitanya Kalbag said religious meetings to protest against the army's action were subdued.

In a radio interview with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation Sunday, Mrs. Gandhi

appealed for communal peace and said the army operation in Amritsar had not been aimed at Sikhs.

"It (the army) was not used against the Sikhs. It was not used against the Golden Temple. It was not used against the Sikh religion. It was used to take out terrorists who had been indulging in murder, arson and looting," the Indian leader said.

Mrs. Gandhi said in the interview, due to be broadcast in Australia and Canada, that repeated and almost daily attempts had been made to reach agreement with the Akali Dal before resorting to force.

The prime minister said she thought reports that foreign powers were involved were true, but said she did not know which countries had links with the extremists.

A senior Indian official has said that Sikh extremists seeking a separate state and responsible for more than 300 sectarian killings in Punjab this year had received military training in camps in Pakistan.

Mrs. Gandhi said she did not believe that all Sikhs had been alienated by the army operation at the temple, but she did not think the Akali Dal had a role to play in reconciling the government and India's 12 million-strong Sikh community.

Japanese think their culture is superior

TOKYO (R) — More than 80 per cent of the people in Japan believe that their country has a superior culture, according to a survey released by the prime minister's office Sunday. Two-thirds of them felt that Japan was a good country and that their own lives were getting better, the survey said. But over half believed the general economy was not improving and were concerned about their old age. Fifty-five per cent said they had strong feelings of patriotism, an increase of 13 per cent from last year. People aged 60 and over had the most positive feelings toward Japan, while younger individuals had the most negative feelings.

Ingmar Bergman gets film award

ROME (AP) — Ingmar Bergman and his "Fanny And Alexander" took three of six prizes for foreign films in Italy's prestigious David of Donatello Cinema Competition, jurors announced Saturday. The Swedish director was awarded one David. Italy's counterpart to Hollywood's Oscars, for best director and another for the best screenplay for the film. "Fanny And Alexander" also was chosen as the best foreign film of 1984. The David for best foreign actress went to Shirley Maclaine for her role in the U.S. film "Terms of Endearment," while Woody Allen was chosen as best foreign actor for "Zelig." Johnatan Taplin took the best producer prize for "Under Fire." Seven juries in Rome, Turin, Milan, Bologna, Florence, Naples and Bari voted the winners of the competition, run by the state-sponsored General Association of Entertainment.

Sailor missing after ship sinks

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — One sailor was still missing but 27 were rescued from the Singaporean vessel Cherry Leju, which sank in rough weather Thursday night in the Bay of Bengal, officials said Sunday. The Bangladesh navy continued the search for missing sailor Danilo Mariano, a Filipino who became separated from other crewmen in a lifeboat because of strong wind and waves. He had a life jacket on, his colleagues told the Chalna Port authority.

Earthquake shakes Hawaiian Islands

HONOLULU, Hawaii (AP) — An earthquake measuring 4.9 on the Richter Scale shook the Hawaiian Islands of Oahu, where Honolulu is located, and Molokai Saturday morning, but there were no reports of injuries or structural damage, authorities said. The quake was located beneath the floor of the Pacific Ocean about midway between the islands of Molokai and Lanai, said Gordon Burton, director of the Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre. The earthquake, which was not powerful enough to generate a tsunami or tidal wave, was centred about 16 kilometres northwest of Lanai, Mr. Burton said. Authorities received no reports of injuries or damage to buildings, said Norm Lamb, a spokesman for the State Civil Defence Agency. Police spokeswomen on Oahu and Molokai said they received numerous telephone calls from the public about the quake. A Fire Department spokesman on Lanai said no calls were received from residents of the small island.

FAA finds mis-wiring in DC-10s

WASHINGTON (AP) — Incorrect wiring that could cause fires has been uncovered in 80 DC-10 jumbo jets being used by U.S. airlines, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) disclosed Friday. Checks of the instrument panel wiring on the 165 DC-10s in service were ordered May 25, after an investigation of a cockpit fire on a Northwest Airlines jet revealed that part of the wiring had been installed incorrectly. In the Northwest incident, May 17, the jumbo jet took off from Minneapolis, Minnesota with 248 passengers and crew aboard, but was forced to return when the fire was noticed behind the instrument panel. No one was hurt in the incident.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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LEAD FROM THE RIGHT HAND

North-South vulnerable.
South deals.
NORTH
♠ K 10 4 2
♥ Q
♦ K 10 6
♣ Q J 9 5 3
WEST
♠ 7 6 5
♥ 10 8 6 4 3
♦ 9 7 3 2
♣ 6
EAST
♠ A J 9
♥ K 7 5 2
♦ 8 5
♣ A 10 8 7
SOUTH
♠ Q 8 3
♥ A J 9
♦ A Q J 4
♣ K 4 2
The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♦ Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Four of ♣.

Don't lose your concentration just because a contract looks simple. Distribution can play strange tricks. This hand, dealt in a recent team match, proves our point.

Because of his distribution, North probed for a major-suit fit. When South denied four cards in a major, North chose the no trump game since he felt that nine tricks would be easier to come by than the 11 required for five clubs.

At both tables, the opening lead was a low heart. East covered the queen with the king and South won the ace. At one table declarer saw no problem. He led a club to the jack. East won the ace and returned a heart.

Declarer finessed the nine. West won the ten and forced out declarer's remaining stopper.

Only when West showed out on the next club did declarer begin to realize his predicament. Now his only hope for the contract was that West had started with six hearts and East had the ace of spades. But that was not the case, and declarer ended up with only seven tricks.

The second declarer foresaw the possibility of a 4-1 club break. To guard against that, he crossed to the ten of diamonds at trick two and led a club to his king. East was forced to play, and declarer did not mind if West won the ace, because his heart tenace could not be attacked from that side.

When the king of clubs held, declarer crossed back to the table with the king of diamonds and now led a spade to his queen. Again, East could not rise with the ace without setting up the rest of the suit for declarer, and again declarer did not mind if West gained the lead with the ace.

The spade trick brought declarer's bag to eight tricks — four diamonds, two hearts and one in each black suit. It was now a simple matter to lead another club and set up the ninth trick in that suit. The defenders were powerless to prevent declarer from fulfilling his contract.

By George Gedda
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Rev. Jesse Jackson and Chinese Defence Minister Zhang Aiping dropped by the State Department the other afternoon. The visits were unrelated, but their simultaneous presence symbolised changing attitudes in both countries.

Rev. Jackson, the black Democratic presidential candidate, is a prominent heir to a long American political heritage. Mr. Zhang has his roots in Marxism-Leninism.

Not long ago, many Democrats — and Republicans alike — said Chinese Marxists were too barbaric, too uncivilised, to talk to. But times have changed.

Nowadays, officials of the administration of President Ronald Reagan could only wish that Democrats in Rev. Jackson's camp shared the same world view as Communists of Zhang's stripe. In fact, there are not many vital

issues these days on which the United States and China disagree. As for Rev. Jackson, it is hard to find an issue on which he believes the State Department is on the right track.

Mr. Zhang was conferring with Secretary of State George P. Shultz in his office on East-West relations and China's U.S. supported military modernisation programme.

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Nearby Rev. Jackson was meeting with Undersecretary of State Michael Armacost for a briefing on U.S. hemispheric policy in preparation for the candidate's upcoming visit to Panama, Nicaragua and Cuba.

The meeting reportedly was straightforward and without polemics on either side, but Rev. Jackson emerged convinced that administration policies in the region are misguided.

He said the United States is "against the struggle for freedom" in Central America and elsewhere. In fact, he said, "we have ended up on the wrong side of every major revolution in the last 10 years in Third World countries." The leftist Nicaraguan government, he said, "is on the right side of history."

Administration officials may disagree with Rev. Jackson, but they see no harm in his going ahead with his trip later this month.

"I'd pay his way down there," one official, known for his conservative views, said privately. The official said he believes Rev. Jackson's trip will backfire if the candidate voices his criticism abroad.

Rev. Jackson freely denounced U.S. policy during a recent visit to Mexico, ignoring the unwritten rule that candidates do not speak negatively about their homeland while on foreign soil, the official recalled.

Mr. Zhang, meanwhile, made no secret of his sympathy for American policy.

Close Sino-American ties, he said, "will not only benefit our two countries but will contribute to safeguarding world peace. We will unite together and make efforts to safeguard world peace."

While Rev. Jackson is offended by what he calls American "militarism," Mr. Zhang has a different view.

After ending his visit here Thursday with an agreement in principle to purchase anti-aircraft, artillery and anti-missile munitions, he left on a trip that will take him to U.S. military bases and defence contractors, including Boeing Co., Rockwell International Corp. and General Dynamics Corp.

The trip will end in another week, about the time that Rev. Jackson embarks on a far different kind of mission to the Caribbean basin.